BIMCC
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May 2010

Thirteenth year

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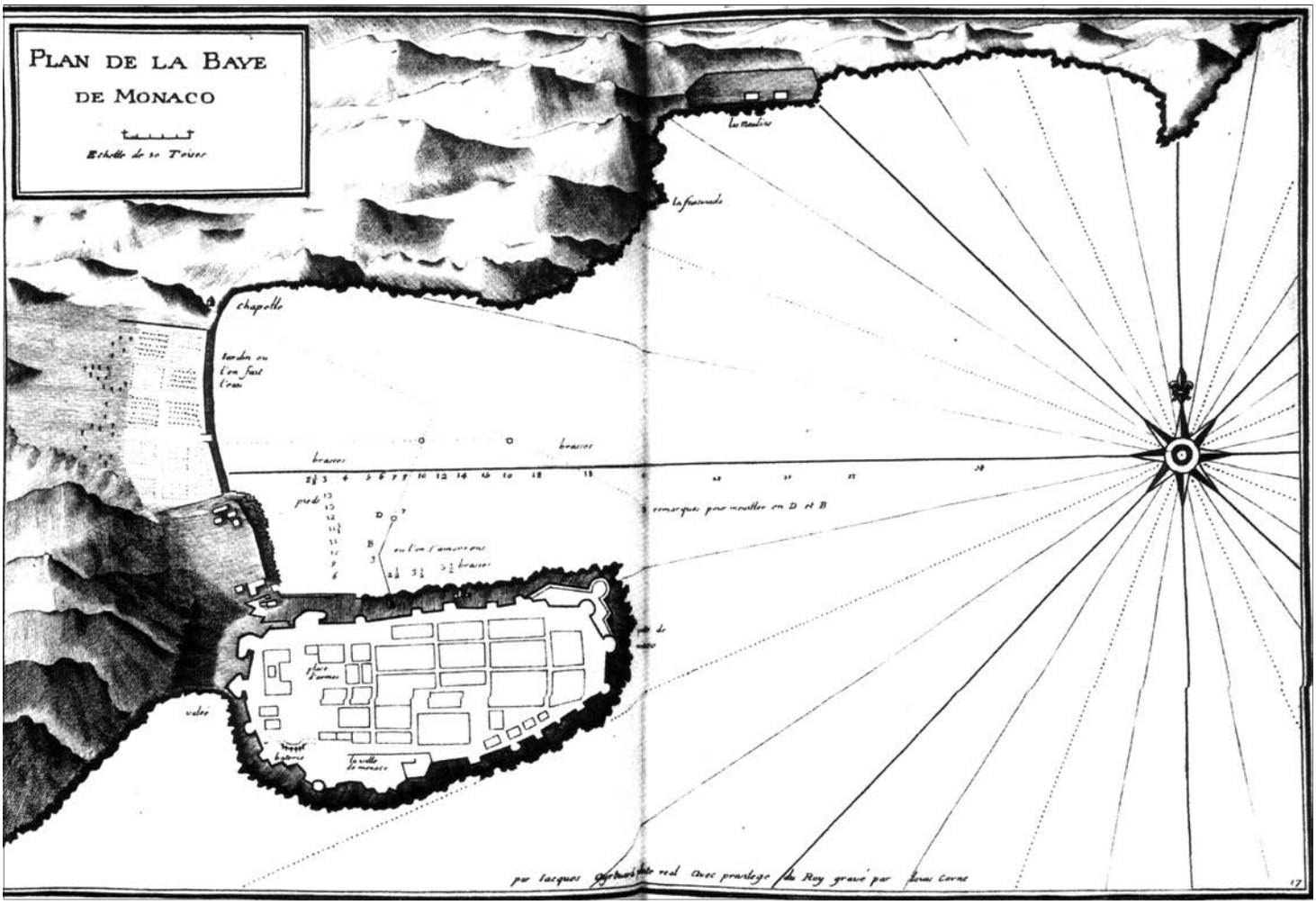
Maps of Monaco



Also in this issue:

- Vancouver
- Collectable/affordable maps: Baedeker's guidebooks
- Reports on recent cartographic events
- … and the usual departments

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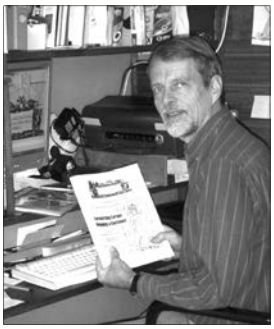
EDITORIAL

Dear Map Friends,

You will have noticed: the May Newsletter is definitely late… as planned! My excuse for this delay was that we were going to travel around the world. Unfortunately my wife and I had to turn back half way and to spend time in hospitals, rather than visiting Japan and other nice places… Now things are practically back to normal and I can share with you, in this Newsletter, some cartographic souvenirs of British Columbia and of the Hawaiian islands.

When Rod Lyon, our correspondent in Malta, offered to write about maps of Monaco, this immediately aroused my interest. Not only is it a good subject for the beginning of the summer, but it also met one of my own areas of interest: the lovely Mediterranean city of Menton and its history, which has a lot in common with Monaco. I therefore added my own contribution on the cartography of the Principality.

Cartographically yours.



Jean-Louis Renteux
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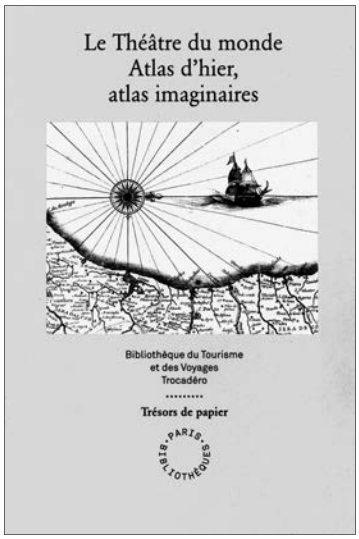
Cover: Jacques Ayrouard, ca. 1732, *Plan de la Baye de Monaco* (see article page 12)

Le Théâtre du Monde : Atlas d'hier, atlas imaginaires
(Theatre of the World: atlases of yesterday, atlases of the imagination)



This exhibition closed some time ago*, but its companion publication will hold our attention for a while. Intended to be the first volume of a new series entitled *Trésors du papier* (Paper treasures), it offers a welcome primer to those interested in the history of cartography. More than that, it takes the starting collector by the hand to introduce him to map production in the glorious Dutch-dominated 17th century and the methods and principles of map making of that time. Monique Pelletier, a frequent speaker at our BIMCC conferences and one of the most distinguished map historians in France, has presented the essentials about ancient maps on 24 pages, with a two-page glossary of terms - a masterpiece of its kind that would deserve translation into English.

The motivation for this exhibition and publication came from the Touring-Club de France. Founded in 1890, and immediately popular among cyclists first and motorists later, it created a library of tourist guides in 1899. Some older atlases found their way into this collection, and it is the recent restoration of their seven volumes of Blaeu and Hondius/Janssonius atlases that stimulated this venture, as explained towards the end of the booklet.

From among these is presented Vol. 3 of *Le Nouveau Théâtre du Monde* ou *Nouvel Atlas* by Henricus Hondius and Johannes Janssonius (Amsterdam, 1639). A selection of twenty-three maps is reproduced double-page in full colour, and of excellent quality. We are further invited to see the whole atlas on the internet (www.bibliotheques.paris.fr, follow *bibliothèques spécialisées)*, so that any keen amateur may browse through the maps and the texts on verso.

This third volume of the three-volume atlas published by Henricus Hondius or Johannes Janssonius between 1639 and 1642[1] covers Spain, Italy and Southeastern Europe, and the Continents. On going through the scanned images the extent and the, perhaps somewhat immoderate, style of restoration become apparent. The map of Asia, for example, has suffered a paper loss of about seven cm on either side of the map sheet at the top, and this has been artfully restored with paper-fill and retracing (and colouring) of the missing map data. Gaps in the texts on verso have likewise been restituted in manuscript. This atlas volume appears to lack a title page. The four-page Preface *Av Lectevr* bound in at the beginning most likely came from a different atlas[2] , as it is dated *Adieu de nostre Imprimerie, le 1 de May, MDCXLII* and signed *I. Blaev.*

Apart from some ancient navigation instruments on loan from the Maritime Museum in LA Rochelle, a quite unconventional aspect of cartography was also on show: the artist François Place exhibited his vision of distant lands, with monsters, cannibals and legendary towns on 30 originals which are part of the imaginary atlas he created, *L'Atlas des géographes d'Orbae* (editors Casterman, Brussels, and Gallimard, Paris). This brings to mind the magnificent exhibition *Le dessus des cartes – Art et cartographie* organized by ISELP in Brussels in 2004 on which Jean-Louis Renteux reported in our Newsletter N° 19 (May 2004). François Place was not among the artists then.

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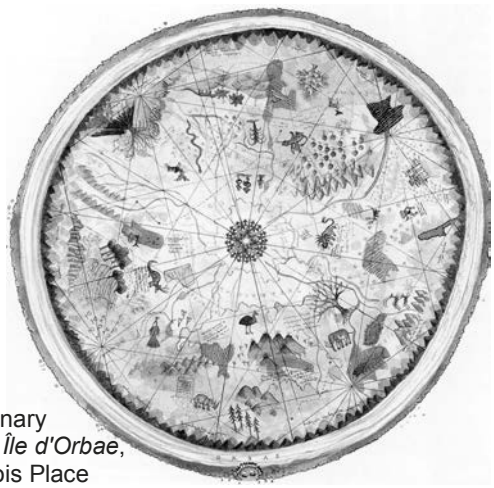

Imaginary cartography: *Île d'Orbae*, by François Place

* Exhibition at the Bibliothèque du Tourisme et des Voyages, Trocadéro, 6 Rue du Commandant Schloesing, F-75116 Paris, from 24 November 2009 to 20 February 2010

Companion booklet, same title, Paris bibliothèques, 3, Impasse de la Planchette, F-75003 Paris, www.paris-bibliotheques.org , 104 pp., with 23 double-page colour reproductions of maps, paper cover with glued-on map (detail), 22 x 16 cm. ISBN 2-84331-172-1, EUR 15.00

[1] See Peter van der Krogt, *Koeman's Atlantes Neerlandici*, Vol. I, 1: 411

[2] probably Joan Blaeu's *Théâtre du Monde ou Nouvel Atlas*, see idem, Vol. II, 2 : 212.1

A visit to the *Magnificent Maps* exhibition is a must!

British Library, London*, 30 April-19 September 2010

Anybody interested in maps, especially in the significance of maps as related to their period of creation should visit this magnificent exhibition. Peter Barber, Head of the Map Collection, and Tom Harper, Curator of Antiquarian Mapping, at the British Library, have mounted an impressive exhibition of about 100 maps and wall maps. Peter likes to look at maps as works of art, so do I.

The organisers chose to display the maps in their original setting, which brings out the profound meaning of the map itself.

Maps in a gallery were propaganda, maps in the audience chamber reflected the power of the host. Bedchamber maps evoked some spiritual dreams. The cabinet of curiosities expressed the owners' scientific interest. Street or outdoor maps were functional or decorative. Maps in merchant houses demonstrated the owners' pride. Maps were the essential political tool in the office of the Secretary of State. Maps for learning were found in schoolrooms.

There are different ways to look at maps, as geopolitical objects, as decorative objects, as abstract or figurative paintings, as imaginary constructions, as practical tools, as study objects, as investments or as ways to find a treasure.

For my part a map is an artistic creation, and the curators of the British Library have been highly successful in enhancing this view.

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* For details on the exhibition, visit www.bl.uk/magnificentmaps

Accompanying book: *Magnificent maps—Power, Propaganda and Art,* by Peter Barber and Tom Harper, British Library, London, 176 pp., sumptuously illustrated, hard back GBP 29.95 (ISBN 978 07123 5092 1), paperback GBP 17.95 (ISBN 978 07123 5093 8)

One of the three extent copies of the largest atlas in the world,
British Library's Klencke Atlas (c. 1660)
presented at the exhibition by P. Barber and colleague

This Newsletter was edited by Jean-Louis Renteux with the support of the editorial committee comprising Wulf Bodenstein, Lisette Danckaert, Peter Galezowski, Pierre Parmentier and Jacqueline Renteux.

Petrus Plancius
A modest homage to a great cartographer

On 6 May last, Wulf Bodenstein, honorary president of the BIMCC, in the company of Pierre Mattelaer (former BIMCC treasurer) and their wives, visited a small village of the *Westhoek* (at the western limits of West Flanders). The place, Dranouter, is almost insignificant and is at present only famous for its yearly Folk Song Festival. But for map collectors, Dranouter could mean much more: it is the birthplace of the great cartographer Petrus Plancius (Dranouter 1552 – Amsterdam 1622) or Pieter Platevoet (Plancius is the Latin nickname for flatfoot, or *platvoet* in Dutch).

Dranouter was part of the Barony of Bailleul (Belle in Flemish; now in France) and was located in the neighbourhood of - at that time - prosperous little towns such as Hondschoote and Steenvoorde, where there was an important Calvinist concentration. It is mainly in this region that the furious iconoclastic insurgency originated and spread through the Low Countries in the last quarter of the 16th century. This was also the cause of the ruin of these towns.

Plancius was then a Calvinist preacher successively in his own region of Bailleul, later in Brabant (Louvain, Brussels and Mechlin). He came back in 1578 to preach at Menin (Menen) not so far from Dranouter but had to flee from the dangerous 'Malcontents' (a group of pro-Spanish forces). We see him back in 1579 in Brussels; but due to the growing persecutions, he eventually emigrated to Amsterdam (1585), where he continued his preaching but started also his cartographic work.

Petrus Plancius is without any doubt very well known to all of us, especially for his beautiful and extremely elaborate world map (1590) and needs no further introduction.

Let us join spiritually our honorary president and treasurer in their modest pilgrimage to the small village of Dranouter to honour the memory of a genius and great cartographer.

In the same region, a few miles north of Dranouter, is another small village, Westouter, which is the birthplace of a renowned cartographer and mathematician, Vedastus du Plouich; he befriended Anthony Sanderus (Flandria Illustrata) and worked mainly for him.

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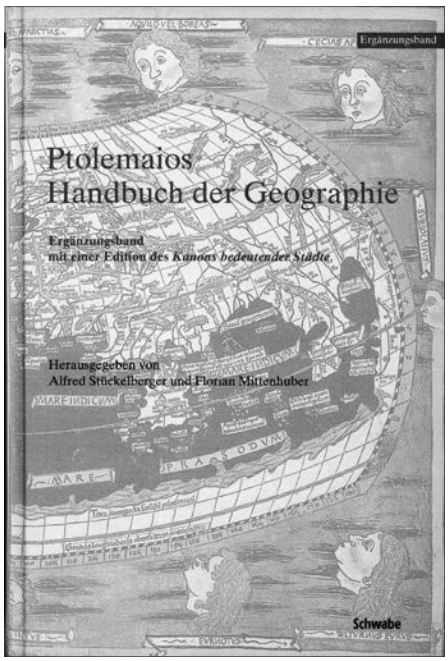
Further reading on Petrus Plancius:
- Willem Baudartius, 4th book of part 2, 1625.
- Josef Bossu, *Petrus Plancius, predikant en cartograaf*. In: *De Franse Nederlanden/Les Pays-Bas Français*, 6e annales, 1991.p. 106-124. (ed. *Stichting Ons Erfdeel*).

Pierre Mattelaer and Wulf Bodenstein in front of the small memorial in honour of Plancius.
It is situated behind the village church and consists of three stone panels.
The central one shows a short epitaph: 'Predikant / Kartograaf / Sterrenkundige / Zeevaartpromotor / PIETER PLATEVOET / PETRUS PLANCIUS / Dranouter °1552 / Amsterdam +1622'.
The left panel shows a map engraved in stone, revealing all the places where Plancius once lived or worked either as a preacher or as a cartographer; on the right is a rudimentary redrawing, engraved in stone, of his famous world map.

Ptolemaios – Handbuch der Geographie: Ergänzungsband mit einer Edition des Kanons bedeutender Städte
(Ptolemy's Handbook of Geography – Supplementary Volume with a Table of Important Cities)
by Alfred Stückelberger and Florian Mittenhuber (ed.)

Basel: Schwabe Verlag, 2009, 488 pp., 100 b/w and 35 colour ill., 8 colour plates of maps ; hard cover, 25 x 17 cm.
ISBN 978- 3-7965-2581-0, EUR 89.50, SFR 128.00
To order : Schwabe AG, Verlagsauslieferung, Farnsburgerstrasse 8, CH-4132 Muttenz, Switzerland, www.schwabe.ch



In my presentation of the two-volume translation of Ptolemy's *Handbook of Geography* in Newsletter No 31 (May 2008), I mentioned that a supplementary volume was in preparation, and this is now before us. To briefly recall the objectives of the original project : the most recent complete edition of the *Geography* goes back to 1845. When in the Topkapi Museum in Istanbul access to a major Ptolemaic manuscript, the Codex Seragliensis GI 57, was finally obtained, this became the starting point for a new reading of this extremely important document on ancient geographical knowledge. It permitted, for example, the correction of hundreds of location coordinates of the 1845 edition that had been corrupted by successive copyists, casting serious doubt upon the integrity of the Ptolemaic heritage. The result was a bi-lingual Greek-German edition of the *Geography* which, although provided with annotations, did not comprise detailed commentaries as these had been reserved for an extra volume from the beginning. They are now arranged under the following headings :

- sources and cartographic tradition
- table or register of important cities
- methods of measurement
- analysis of Ptolemy's representation of the world
- reception of the *Geography* in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance
- linguistic and stylistic properties

The book opens with a catalogue of the presently recorded 53 manuscripts of the *Geography,* divided into primary, secondary and other codices, and classified in accordance with currently accepted reviews and groupings. A brief bibliographical description and technical inspection of the Topkapi manuscript precedes a 60-page commentary on details of appearance and mathematical construction of the cartographic representations, in the versions comprising 26 and 64 maps – an essential complement to the understanding of the entries in the main volumes of the translation.

Having discussed the origins of the *Geography* we come to the core of the second chapter : the register of important or noteworthy cities. This is a listing of some 350 *poleis episemoi,* a subset of the roughly 8 000 localities recorded in Books 2 to 7 of the *Geography.* Dating back to Hipparchus (ca 160-125 B.C.) and amended by Ptolemy for his other major work, the *Mathematical Syntaxis,* also known as the *Almagest,* this register is a substantial source for Ptolemy's description of the localities of the 26 regional maps in Book 8. The coordinates of places in the latter, expressed in time units (length of the longest day for latitudes, time difference from the meridian of Alexandria for longitudes), had to be converted into degrees of latitude and longitude to be comparable with the entries of the earlier register. The result is a double page Greek-German inventory setting out the coordinates of all cities that appear in both documents, marked as 'noteworthy'.

From an analysis of methods of measurement employed for the determination and notation of geographical coordinates we move on to a critical review of the geographical image of Ptolemy's world. This kind of 'quality assessment' ties in well with the modern map reconstructions in Vol. 2 and permits a fascinating comparison to be made between the visions of the past and our 'real' world.

The next chapter addresses the role the *Geography* played in the Middle Ages, in the Arabic tradition, and in the Renaissance, with a list of 86 Latin manuscripts, essentially of the 15th century (two of which are held in the Royal Library of Belgium). Also provided are quite explicit bibliographical details of 20 early printed editions of the *Geographia*, at times also titled Cosmographia, from the first (map-less) edition of 1477 to the first (likewise map-less) Greek edition of 1533. For some unknown reason the important edition by Francesco Berlinghieri (Florence, 1482), the first to include (four) 'modern' maps, only has a minimal two-line entry.

Adapted or otherwise inspired versions by Schedel, Ruysch, Waldseemüller (for his famous world map of 1507), Münster and Mercator are given some attention, and the chapter ends with a particularly edifying and well-illustrated presentation of Ptolemy's portraits on maps and in other publications. An appraisal of Ptolemy's language (Attic Greek) and a very helpful vocabulary of geographical terms lead on to the bibliographical indexes, among which is a historical review of scientific research on the *Geography* from the 13th century onwards, putting this new publication by Alfred Stückelberger and his team into perspective.

An authoritative scholarly work is now accomplished. However, as the editor points out in the Foreword to the present Volume, this should be considered the starting point for further research rather than its conclusion, since numerous details remain to be elucidated. For my part I am most impressed with this presentation of the *Geography.* Never before, I believe, has it been possible to examine in such detail, and to comprehend (almost) instantly, the essence of Ptolemaic maps and, at least as important, that of their accompanying texts. An English translation would be a highly worthwhile historical and, indeed, cultural engagement towards sharing the results of this unprecedented, outstanding translation and study with a wider circle of interested specialists and amateurs.

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Aristotle, Ptolemy, and Copernicus
(Fig. 46, p. 422, frontispiece of Galileo Galilei's *Dialogus de Systemate Mundi*, Leiden, 1641)

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Maps of the Pacific on Kaua'i

If you are interested in early maps of the Pacific Ocean – and if you happen to be on the Hawaiian island of Kaua'i – be sure to stop at the Resort Quest Hotel[1]. The decoration of this kind of hotel is usually based on pictures of *wahines* and tropical flowers. But this small resort (only 311 rooms) focuses on history: a big mural evokes the figures of local king Moikeha (who resisted the conquest by Hawaiian king Kamehameha the Great) and of James Cook (who first put the archipelago on the map) and a collection of ancient maps ornate the walls.

Some seventeen maps and views can be seen; they were probably gathered by the first manager of the hotel (Donald H. Graham, Jr) in the 1980s; but the hotel has changed hands a few times and now no one seems to know anything about this collection…

Half a dozen early maps represent the Pacific, with the well-known misrepresentations which prevailed in the seventeenth century: California as an island, Australia and New-Zealand non existent or limited to fragments of coastline… In addition, two maps – Jansson's 'Mar del Zur' and an English version by John Seller – show an unusual feature: a chain of islands extending across the southern Pacific, until Patagonia, supposedly discovered by one Hernando Galego in 1576.

Most of the collection focuses on the exploration of the Pacific at the end of the 18th century. A number of maps show the tracks of successive explorers: Byron and Mouat (1765), Wallis and Carteret (1767), Cook (1768-71, 1772-75, 1776-80) and Lapérouse (1786-87).

Quite naturally, several maps (and profile views) are devoted to the Hawaiian islands. In particular 'a chart of the Sandwich Islands' by Lt Joseph Baker shows in detail the itineraries of George Vancouver in 1792, 1793 and 1794, to survey the islands of 'Owhyee' (now known as 'Hawaii'), 'Woahoo' (Oahu), 'Mowee' (Maui), etc.

Finally a large 'missionary map' of 1846 shows the 'Hawaiian or Sandwich Islands' with their proper American names…

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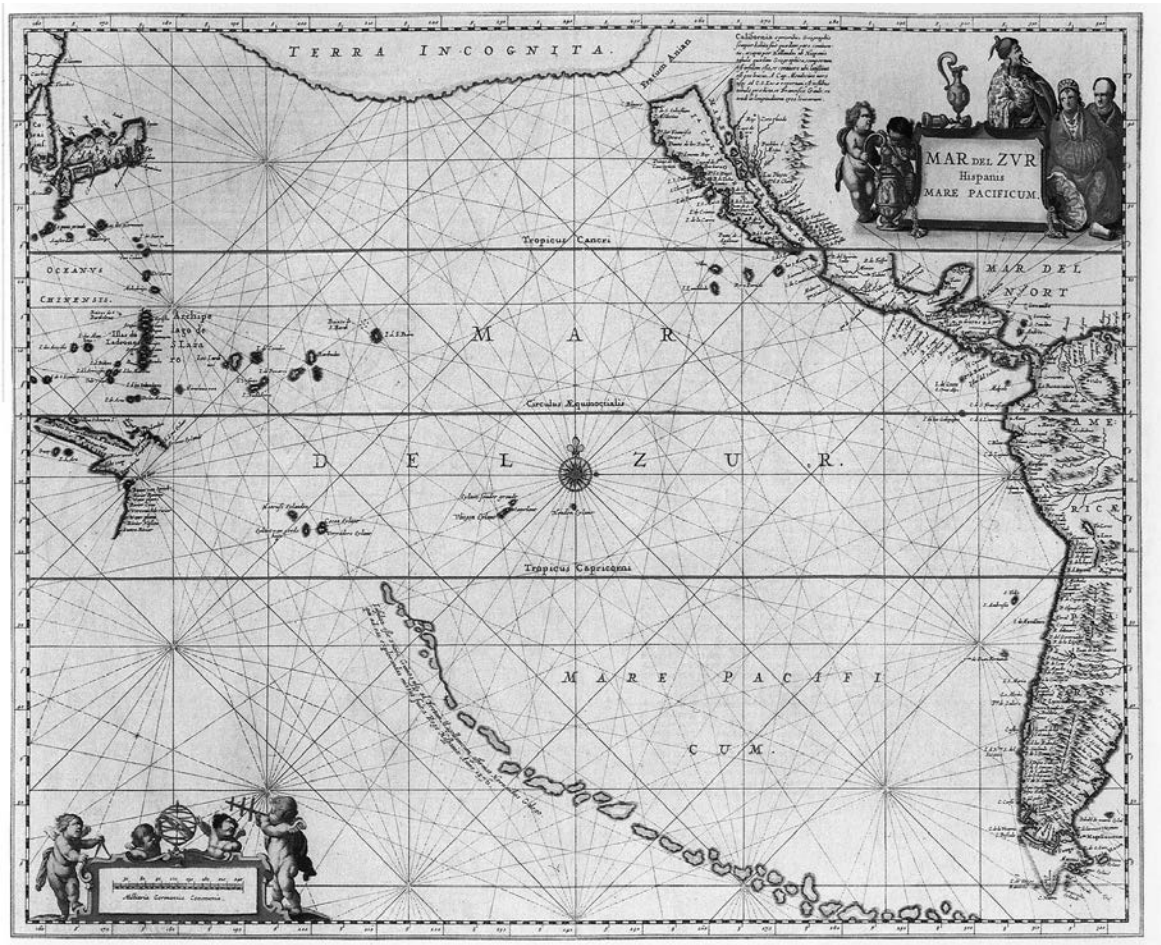


Jansson's 'Mar del Zur'

[1] Resort Quest - Kauai Beach at Makaiwa, 650 Aleka Loop, Kapaa, Hawaii 96746, USA.

Vancouver

Since last winter's Olympic Games, the name of Vancouver has become familiar, around the world, to everybody who has access to a radio or TV set. However, it is not so common knowledge that the western Canadian metropolis owes its name to the explorer-cartographer who first put the region on the map.

George Vancouver was born in 1757 in Surrey, England. He was only 15 when he embarked on James Cook's second voyage of discovery (1772-74) as midshipman on HMS *Resolution.*

He also took part in Cook's third voyage (1776-80), which touched what would be later known as Vancouver Island. Cook's mission was to explore the northwest American coast and to try and find a northwest passage to Hudson Bay. After crossing the Pacific and discovering an archipelago (now known as Hawaii), which he named Sandwich Islands after the First Lord of the Admiralty, Cook reached the American coast at a latitude of about 45° N and proceeded northwards. He stopped at Nootka Sound (now known to be located on Vancouver Island), where he spent the month of March 1778 maintaining his ships; he befriended the locals and traded manufactured goods against provisions… and he claimed the area for Britain. He then continued along the coast, not knowing he had missed the waterway around the huge Vancouver Island[1]. He explored the coast in detail until 'Cook's inlet' (site of Anchorage) and then the Bering Strait, until he was blocked by the ice pack. He then decided to go South and to spend the winter in the Sandwich Islands, where he met his fatal destiny…

Twelve years later, George Vancouver was appointed to command his own expedition and, again, to try and find a northwest passage. He left Falmouth on 1 April 1791 and proceeded by way of the Cape of Good Hope to Australia, New Zealand, Tahiti and the Hawaiian Islands. After a year of navigation and exploration, he sighted the Californian coast. He proceeded, as per his orders, to examine the coast with minute care, surveying all inlets and outlets, in the hope of finding an eastward passage. Most of this work was done from small boats powered by both oars and sail because maneuvering larger sail-powered vessels in uncharted waters was generally impractical and dangerous.

However, Spain had shown interest in the northwest coast even before Cook's visit. In 1774, Juan Jose Pérez Hernandez came searching for Russian traders who were suspected of encroaching upon the marches of the Spanish empire; he did stop – without landing – at Nootka Sound, which he called *Surgidero de San Lorenzo.* The following year, two other Spanish ships were sent from Mexico to explore the coast and take possession of it. One of them, the *Sonora*, under captain Juan Francisco de la Bodega y Quadra, continued along the coast of Alaska until 59°N (a copy of his journal was later used by Cook). In 1779, Bodega y Quadra undertook another expedition to explore systematically the northwest American coast, charting every bay and inlet until 58°30' N, in search of the northwest passage; he formally took possession of the natural harbour of *Puerto de Santiago* (now Port Etches, near Prince William Sound).

From 1785, British merchants trying to develop a fur trade used the natural harbour of Nootka Sound, which Cook had claimed for Britain; John Meares established a trading post there. While he was away, trading with China, Esteban José Martinez arrived in February 1789 to establish Spanish sovereignty; he renamed the place *Santa Cruz de Nuca*, built Fort San Miguel… and began to seize English ships. The Nootka Crisis almost triggered a war[2], but was eventually resolved diplomatically with the 1790 Nootka Convention breaking the Spanish monopoly. The 1791 mission of George Vancouver included re-establishing a British presence there.

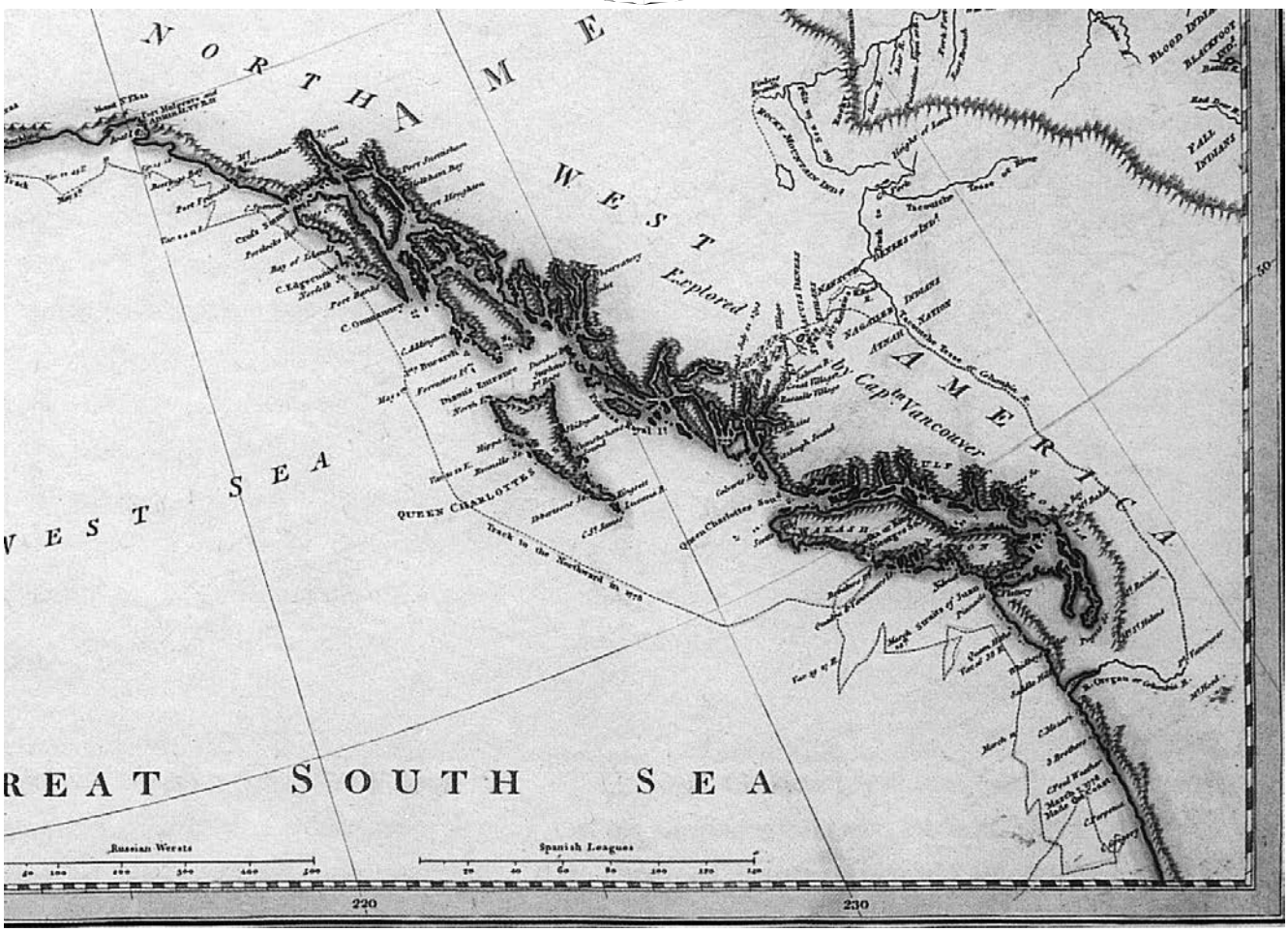
On 29 April 1792, Vancouver entered the Strait of Juan de Fuca[3] and explored the north shore of the Strait of Georgia where the City of Vancouver now stands. He was the first European to enter Burrard Inlet, now the main Vancouver harbour area.

Here he unexpectedly met a Spanish expedition led by Dionisio Alcalá Galiano and Cayetano Valdés y Flores and was *mortified* (his word) to learn they already had a crude chart of the Strait of Georgia based on the exploration voyage of José María Narváez, the year before. For three weeks they explored in cooperation the Strait of Georgia and the Discovery Islands before sailing separately to Nootka Sound after the summer surveying season ended in November. Vancouver was cordially welcomed in Nootka Sound by the Spanish commander, Bodega y Quadra. He and Vancouver exchanged the maps they had made, but no agreement was reached on

[1] Vancouver Island is the largest island on the western side of North America: it is 460 kilometres in length and, with 32 134 km², is larger than Belgium. It now belongs to British Columbia, Canada. It is separated from the US Washington state mainland by the Strait of Juan de Fuca and from the Canadian mainland (and Vancouver city) by the Strait of Georgia and by a complex network of channels and smaller islands.

[2] Nootka is now a remote village on Vancouver Island, only accessible by boat (through Nootka Sound) or sea plane.

[3] The Strait was discovered in 1787 by British fur trader Charles Barkley and named after Juan de Fuca, a Greek navigator sailing for Spain who claimed to have discovered, in 1592, the 'Strait of Anian' – the mythical northwest passage – and a big island at 47° N.



'Chart of the NW coast of America and the NE coast of Asia, explored in the years 1778 and 1779. Prepared by Lieut. Henry Roberts under the supervision of Capt. Cook', London, William Faden, 1784/1808. (Detail) In spite of its restrictive title, the map does incorporate the later findings of 'Capt. Vancouver' and of unnamed Spanish explorers.

the territorial claims; they decided to await further instructions. At this time, they decided to name the large island on which Nootka was now proven to be located as *Quadra and Vancouver Island.* Years later, as Spanish influence declined, the name was shortened to simply Vancouver Island.

After another visit (February-March 1793) to the Hawaiian Islands, in whose races and affairs he took great interest, Vancouver resumed his exploration of the American coast in April, surveying north to 56° N, and south (past the Spanish Californian settlements) to 35° N. During a fresh stay at the Hawaiian Islands (January-March 1794) Vancouver accepted their submission to Great Britain, but his annexation seems never to have been officially ratified. Quitting the isles again in March 1794, Vancouver sailed, by Chernigov Island and Kodiak Island, to Cook's Inlet, which was now proved not to be a river. After a fresh survey of much of the coast north of San Francisco, Vancouver set out homewards via Cape Horn and St. Helena in October 1794. On the way he made a careful examination of Cape St. Lucas, the southern point of Lower California, the Galapagos Islands and some other points.

He reached the Thames on 20 October 1795, and immediately set about the preparation of his narrative; but he died at Petersham in Surrey on 10 May 1798, before he had completed his task. His brother John, assisted by Captain Puget, published the complete record in 1798.

Vancouver determined that the Northwest Passage did not exist at the latitudes that had long been suggested. His charts of the North American northwest coast were so extremely accurate that they served as the key reference for coastal navigation for generations.

Vancouver Island and the surrounding region – and their native 'First Nations' – remained immune to significant European colonisation for about a century after Vancouver's explorations.

The first settlement on the south bank of Burrard's Inlet, Gastown, was established, around a tavern for whalers, in 1867. It is only in 1880, when the city was incorporated with other settlements, that it received the name of Vancouver.

Jean-Louis Renteux
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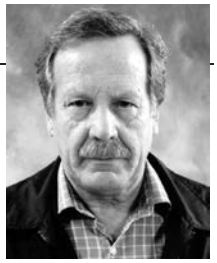


How Monaco evolved on old maps, plans and charts

by David Roderick Lyon[1]
galleon@onvol.net

In September 1983 I published in 'The Map Collector' (issue No 24) a preliminary study of the old printed maps, charts, engravings and lithographs of the world-famous Principality of Monaco. At that time I was able to list only a few maps and charts dealing specifically with Monaco.

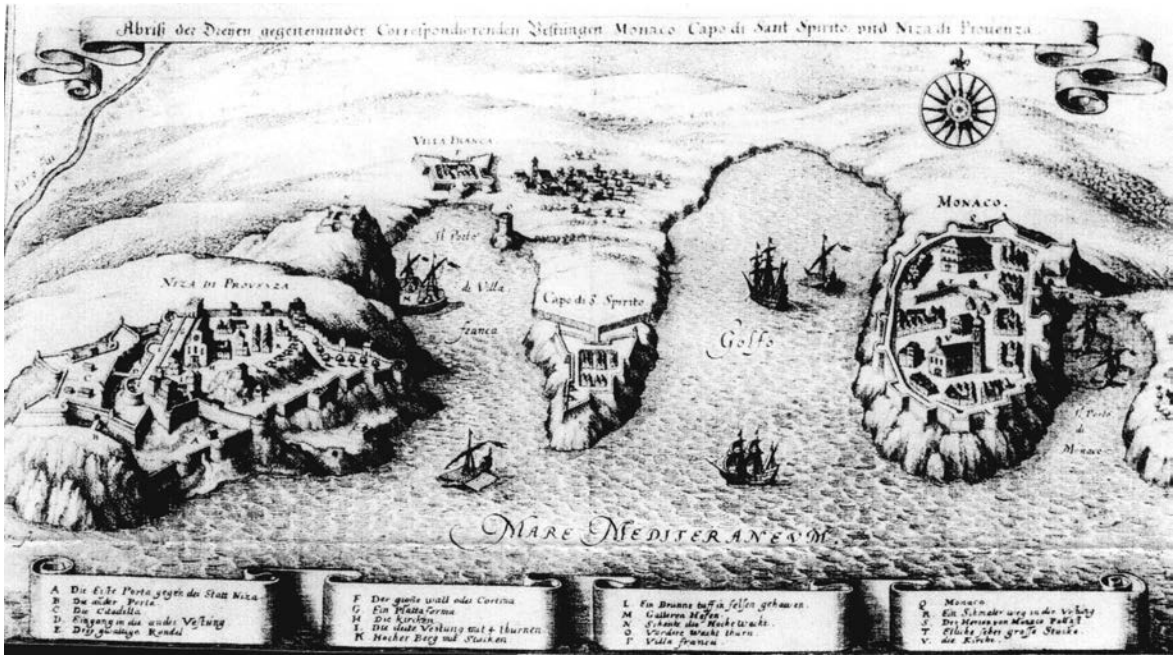
The first printed map would appear to be a German bird's eye view from the sea by Mattias Merian published circa 1650 in his *Theatrum Europaeum*[2]. This shows two galleys in the port and gives a detailed list of buildings then contained within the walls of the fortified town on the rock. No constructions are shown outside the walls.

In 1720, also in Germany, Gabriel Bodenehr published the same view but much reduced in size in his *Atlas Curieux Oder Neuer Und Compendieuser Atlas*.

Then, circa 1732, appeared perhaps the most important chart ever published of Monaco: *Plan De La Baye De Monaco* (see this Newsletter's cover) by Jacques Ayrouard, *pilote real* (King's Hydrographer), in a truly fascinating sea atlas entitled: *Receuil De Plusieurs Plans Des Ports et Rades et de Quelques Cartes Particulieres De La Mer Mediterannee*. Here is a chart clearly made after an extensive on-site survey by Ayrouard. Monaco is still basically a fortified town on the rock, but a few buildings are shown outside the walls, notably the little chapel of Sainte Dévote, patron saint of Monaco, and the famous *moulins*, olive oil mills, that gave their name to the main street of Monte-Carlo: *Boulevard des Moulins*. They must have been very important to Monaco as there exist a number of engravings of them and the area where they stood is now a garden in *Place des Moulins (*where there is an *Ascenseur des Moulins* which takes you down towards the beach). Some say that these mills existed from Roman times and certainly Ayrouard shows them to have been quite extensive.

Although Ayrouard was hydrographer to the King of France and produced the most excellent charts and coastal profiles, very little is known about him and, as Gillian Hutchinson, Curator of the History of Cartography at Greenwich, has so well remarked: he would make a great project for somebody to track down in the French national archives.

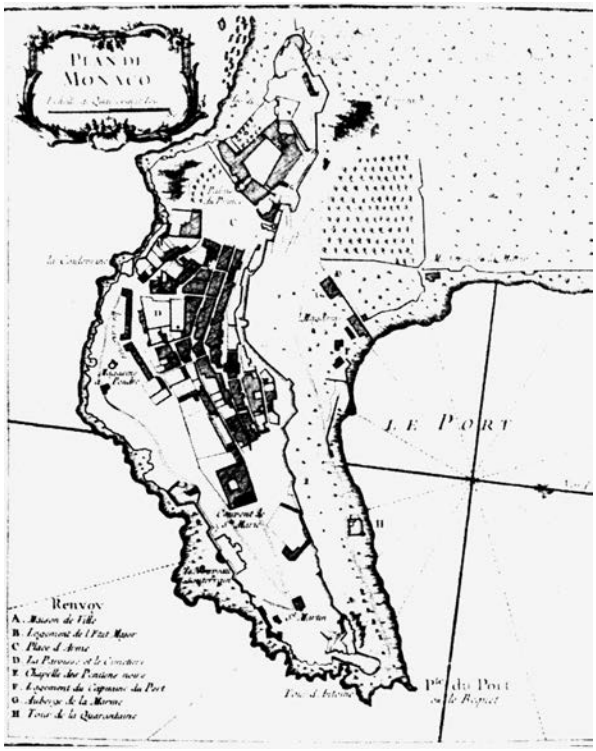
Ayrouard's elegant sea atlas does not reveal much about it's author. However, he does say that he visited the places shown on the 70 double-page engraved charts either in the course of his duties or privately. The dedication at the beginning is to: Jean Frederick Phélypeaux, Comte de Maurepas, Secretary to the Royal Household of Louis XV and Minister of the Navy. The selection of the charts seems to be a very personal one, with notable exclusions like the important Grand Harbour of Valletta which he must have known as there are coastal profiles of Malta.



The earliest printed map of Monaco published ca 1650 in Germany by Mattias Merian in his *Theatrum Europaeum*

[1] David Roderick Lyon, a founding member of the newly created Malta Map Society, used to be an expert in ancient maps and engravings for antiquarian dealer 'Stanley Gibbons Monaco SAM' in Monte-Carlo; the late Prince Rainier III was one of his clients.

[2] The dating of the Merian map as circa 1650 follows that used by the late Louis Loeb-Larocque who published a number of catalogues with that date when he had a business in Monaco. As he saw a considerable number of atlases in his liftetime his opinion is obviously important. Later dates are attributed but these may refer to later editions or the reduced Bodenehr version.



Sea chart of Monaco by Jacques Nicolas Bellin published in 1764 in *Le Petit Atlas Maritime*, vol IV

Chronologically the next printed map of Monaco is a small plan by Lemau de la Jaisse published in 1736 in *Plan Des Principales Places De Guerre Et Villes Maritimes Frontieres Du Royaume De La France*. Basically, an information plan about the people and fortifications of Monaco and other towns surrounding France doubtless aimed at the military engineer and for military intelligence at a time of great conflict in and around France.

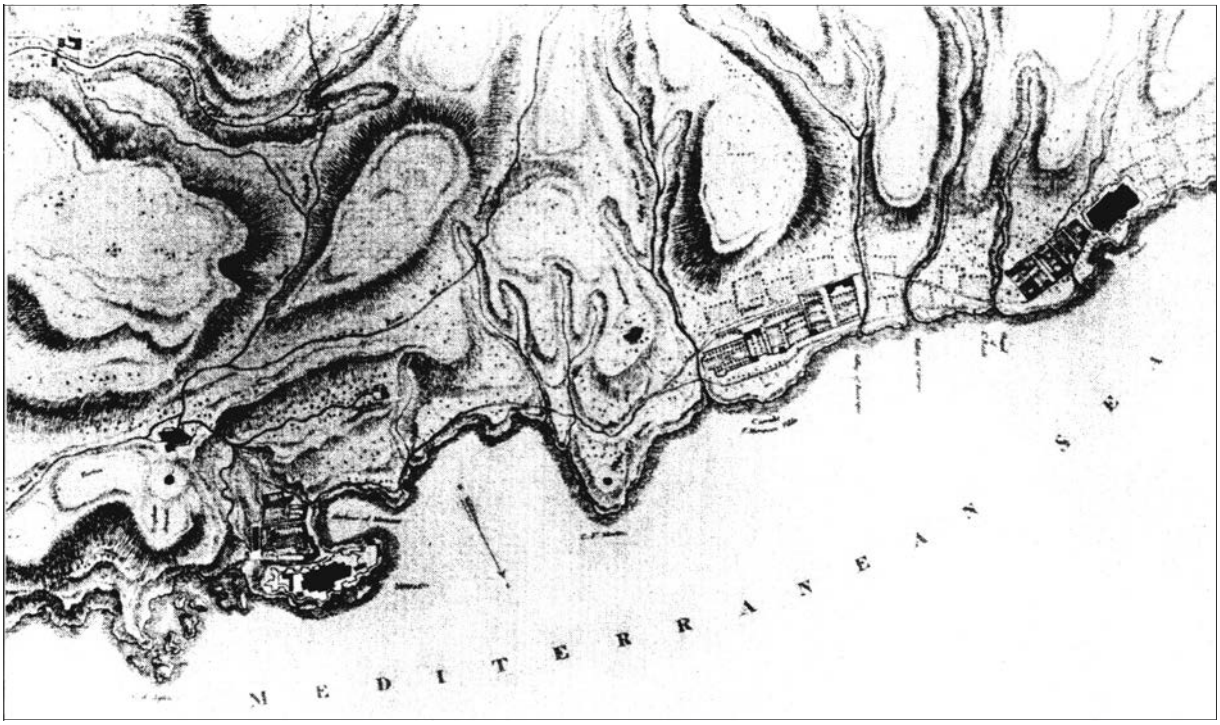
Then comes the attractive sea chart by Jacques Nicolas Bellin published in 1764 in *Le Petit Atlas Maritime,* Vol IV, which is generally agreed to be a very accurate representation of Monaco at that time. Even to the extent of showing *le poulailler* (chicken house) unless this name had another significance in the 18th century!?

Then I mentioned in my original article the map by Albanis Beaumont, a Piedmontese artist who visited Monaco as part of the entourage of a Nobleman and published *Travels Through The Maritime Alps* in 1795 in London. His aquatint view of Monaco is an unbelievable fantasy but his map is very accurate and was later copied by William Faden in 1805.

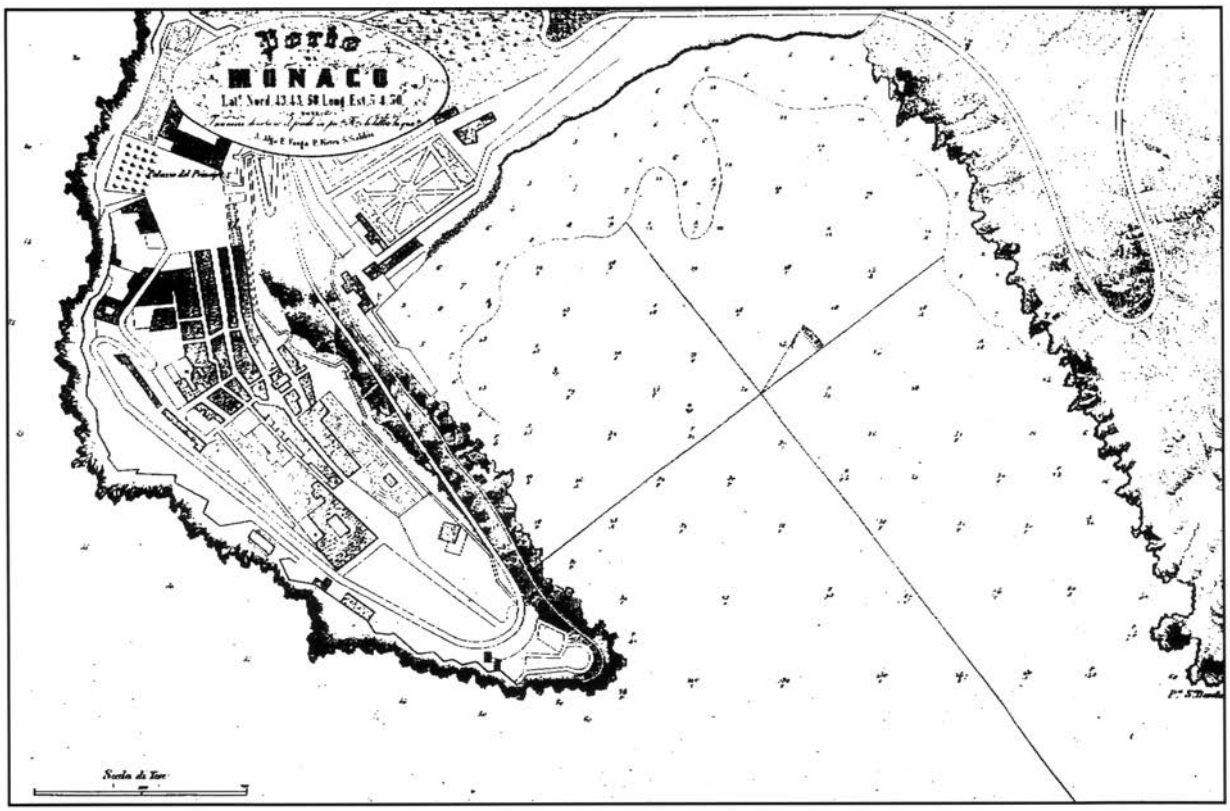
In 1802 a sea chart by William Heather was published in his New Mediterranean Pilot. It is a reduced copy of Ayrouard's earlier chart and acknowledges Ayrouard as the source for all the information.

This takes us to ca 1830 when Attilio Zuccagni-Orlandini published his consequential *Atlante Geografico Degli Stati Italiani* in large folio size and very detailed. A map of the old principality including Menton/Monti and Roquebrune/Cap Martin appears in all editions but in the later ones (after 1860) the title is changed to *Ex-Principato Di Monaco*. There is even a third version in the collection of a former Mayor of Monaco which appears to show a discussed alternative borderline for the principality!

A stunningly beautiful atlas which just falls short of Monaco is the large folio *Theatrum Sabaudiae* published by the House of Blaeu ca. 1700. It includes views and plans of nearby Nice, Eze, Villefranche and Sospel but just falls short of Monaco with two amazing plates of La Turbie (just above Monaco). Turning the pages of these wonderful copper engravings you anticipate seeing Monaco round the corner as it takes



Albanis Beaumont's 1795 map of Monaco from *Travels Through The Maritime Alps*



Porto Di Monaco , a rare sea chart published in Genoa 1855 by Armanino, and which was discovered by Signor Roberto Licata, a resident of that city. It is curious for the inclusion of a *jardin a la francaise* in the port area. In Ayrouard's *Plan De La Baye De Monaco* it is merely stated that the port area was a place where ships could replenish their water supplies. Similarly, Bellin depicts it as virtually a wasteland area, a small part of which is shown under cultivation.

you tantalisingly along the Riviera coast. But alas Monaco was not part of the Estates of the Dukes of Savoy and therefore is not shown. What a wonderful and informative engraving it would have been!!!

By writing the first study in 'The Map Collector' I had hoped that collectors and others would come forward with information about specific Monaco maps etc. And in fact, since then, four more maps have become known to me:

- Signor Roberto Licata kindly contacted me regarding a sea chart (37.5 x 25 cm) he had dated 1855 (see illustration) and published in Genoa by Armanino. In his opinion this was a local production for local navigators/shipping and is therefore extremely rare as only a very limited number of copies would have been sold or printed.

- I have also seen a small map (see illustration) published in 1848 by Abel Rendu. It measures 11.5 x 19 cm and is perhaps the first to announce the ex-principality status of Menton and Roquebrune. The Grimaldis had acquired Menton in 1346 and Roquebrune in 1355. But in 1861 these territories officially became part of France having declared themselves *villes libres* (free towns) following a local revolution in 1848. Ironically the revolution was against punitive taxes levied on the towns by the Princes of Monaco. Today the principality is the workplace of many (if not most) of the people living in these two towns! Such are the twists of destiny! In 1848 an extremely rare series of lithographs was printed to show the important events which took place during this revolution. Among them is one showing a dog cocking its leg on the flag of Monaco!

- Thirdly, an 18th century sea chart undated and unsigned has come to light and is part of the René Richelmi Collection displayed in his Monaco offices. It has so far been impossible to identify this last chart. However, from the strong handmade paper and general appearance it could well be from a quarto pilot by Michelot and Bremond (probably published in Marseille). It shows almost no navigational information and could therefore be a proof state(?)

- Finally Gillian Hutchinson, Curator at the Greenwich Museum, informs me that they have one more engraved map by George Louis Le Rouge published in 1760 in *Receuil Des Fortifications Forts Et Ports De La Mer De France*.

As regards the information on these newly listed items, it would seem that the sea charts owe a lot to the work of Ayrouard and Bellin. Regarding those maps of the old larger principality, it appears that the territory remained very much intact in people's minds and even in reality, despite the devastations of the War of Austrian Succession and the Napoleonic occupation[3]. Only from 1848 did the map change radically with the loss of 95 per cent of the territory

[3] Regarding the Napoleonic occupation of Monaco when the principality's name was changed to 'Fort-Hercule', it is said that this period of name-change was very short because letters went astray or were undelivered as no one knew where or what Fort-Hercule was!

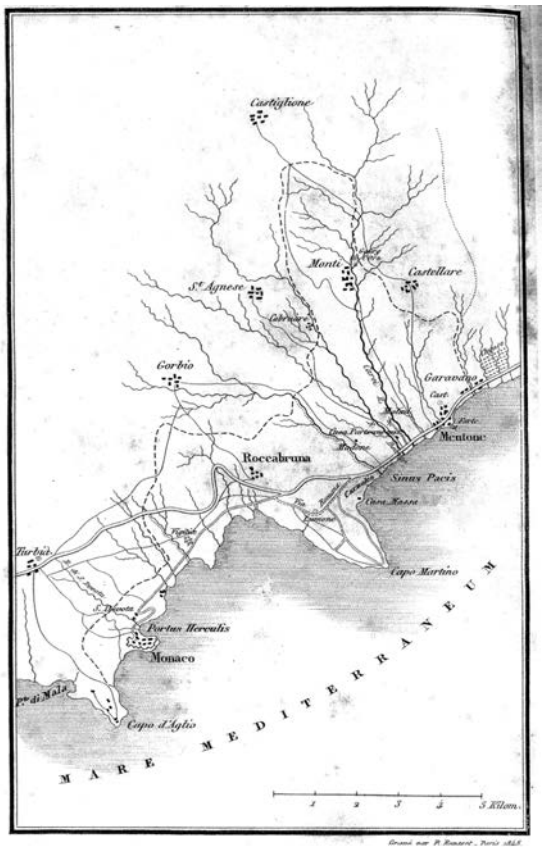
(Menton/Monti and Roquebrune/Cap Martin) for which the Prince received 4 million francs in compensation.

The *Annuaire de Monaco*, a red hardback book published annually for visitors, began to appear in 1877. These all contain folding plans of Monaco. Early editions also include sepia photos pasted onto special cardboard pages, showing the important places and buildings of the fast developing principality. The 1877 edition in Monaco's Bibliothèque Louis Notari includes photos of the bust of Albert I, a general view of Monaco, the facade of the palace, the inner courtyard of the palace, the chapel of Ste. Dévote, the Casino, the gardens of the Casino and the *Hydrothérapie* or *Bains De Mer* (sea bathing) establishment. Sadly the folding plan has been ripped out of the library's copy. Prior to the publication of the *Annuaire* there was the *Guide de Monaco*, but I have never seen or found a copy of it and only know of it because it is mentioned in the introduction to the first Annuaire.

Of course Monaco always clearly features on old general land maps and coastal charts of the French and Italian rivieras, but as I have discovered over the years, specific maps, charts and plans are very rare indeed.

Why is this?

The natural harbour in front of the port area known as La Condamine (where the famous Grand Prix starts and finishes) is nice but heavily exposed to the southerly and easterly winds which can make the harbour waters extremely rough at times. Also, the harbour is not deep and cannot accept large ships[4].



1848 map by Abel Rendu
(illustration by courtesy of Charles Martini de Chateauneuf)

But the real reason for the dearth of old maps and charts is undoubtedly the fact that Monaco was just an unknown, unimportant and rarely visited country prior to 1860. The approach to Monaco was by sea and only in the late 19th century were road and rail communications improved. People who braved the hazards of the *Grande Corniche*, the old Roman road, were often waylaid by notorious brigand families living in caves above or near the route[5].

The fame of Monaco began with the opening and successful operation of an attractive Casino, dynamically run by François Blanc, at a time when European Casinos were being closed down. Plus the glamorous setting and the mild climate attracted the rich and famous in great numbers to the new playground of southern Europe. A playground discovered especially by the English gentry, notably Lord Brougham, who were unable to proceed on their Grand Tours of Italy due to epidemics in that country. Stopped at the Italian border, they turned back and settled for the beauty of Menton, Roquebrune, Monaco, Villefranche, Cap Ferrat, Nice, Antibes and Cannes.

Ruled by the Grimaldi family from Genoa since 1297, Monaco is today divided into six areas: Fontvieille (much of the area was reclaimed from the sea), Monaco-Ville (the fortified rock promontory and original area of Monaco), La Condamine (the old port area), Monte-Carlo (the town named after Prince Charles III that grew up around the Casino), Larvotto (beach area) and Moneghetti (the northern border with France). It is 1.5 km² in size (only the Vatican City is smaller) and the population hovers around 35 000 of which about 5 000 are Monégasques (Monaco citizens).

Anyone interested to see what could have been the fate of Monaco without the incredible ingenuity of the Grimaldi family, should visit the nearby Principality of Seborga. Perched high above the town of Bordighera about an hour's drive from Monaco, it has only the name and the coat of arms painted on the entrance road to tell visitors that it was once a proud principality.

Note: the Author of this article would be grateful to receive information about old maps and charts of Monaco not mentioned in this feature (contact: galleon@onvol.net).

Stop press: Tom Harper, Curator of Antiquarian Mapping at The British Library has just found two other maps for us: *Plan Du Port De Monaco* by Le Bourguignon Duperre (Paris, 1848) and a 1649 Plan of Monaco in Philip Briet's *Parallela Geographiae Veteris et Novae*

[4] It is only in the latter part of the 19th century (as shown in the plans of the *Annuaire de Monaco*) that two breakwaters were built, one on either side of the harbour to calm the seaward approach (and in recent years further breakwaters have been added).
[5] Accounts of these attacks can be found in early issues of French popular journals like *Le Magasin Pittoresque*.

The Principality of Monaco on the original map of the county of Nice by Pierre Joseph de Bourcet (ca 1748)

by Jean-Louis Renteux[1]
editor@bimcc.org

The first map of France drawn on a topographical scale (better than 1: 100 000) was the result of a systematic survey of the country based, for the first time, on geodetical triangulation. This process had been initiated, under the aegis of the new 'Académie des Sciences' created in 1666 under Louis XIV, with the measurement of the Paris meridian, from Dunkerk to Perpignan, started in 1683 under the leadership of Jean-Baptiste Cassini[2] and continued by his son until 1718. His grandson, Cassini de Thury, persuaded king Louis XV to map the whole country on a scientific basis and he conducted operations in the field from 1750 until his death in 1784. The engraving and the publication of the 180 sheets on a scale of 1:86 400 progressed in parallel with the field work but were interrupted by Napoleon and were only completed in 1815.

Of course, the 'Cassini map' did not cover territories which were only added to France after the 18th century; in particular, in the south-east, it stopped at the Var river, just west of Nice.

However, although the county of Nice and Savoy only became French in 1860, at the time of Italian unification, these parts were surveyed and their map published *before* the Cassini map! The 'carte géomètrique du Haut-Dauphiné' drawn by Villaret was published in 1758 (six sheets) and completed in 1763 with three sheets on the county of Nice.

This was made possible by the existence of a corps of military engineers supporting the military operations on the borders and working independently from the geographers and scientists of the Académie, if not in competition with them.

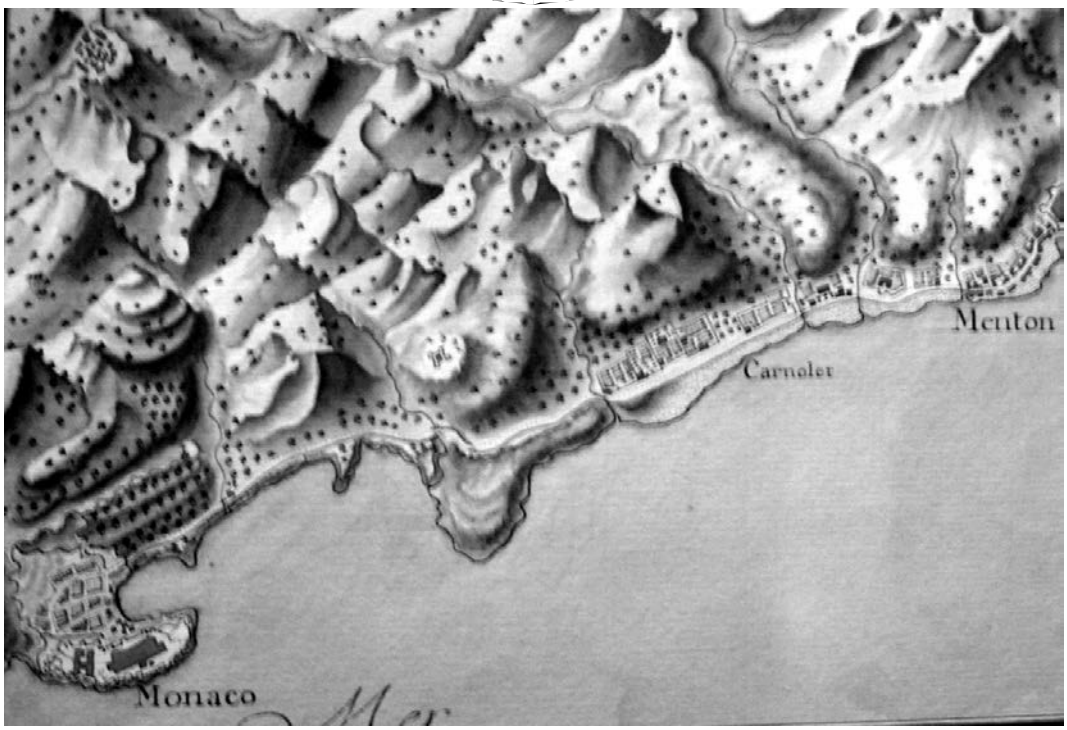
During the war of the Austrian Succession (1743-48), the French won a prestigious victory in Fontenoy (in Hainaut, near Tournai). But the Low Countries and the Rhine were not the only battlefields. Several campaigns took place in the Alps and in northern Italy between the allied Franco-Spanish armies and the Austro-Sardinian ones supported by the British navy. In 1745, the Franco-Spanish armies progressed along the coast into the county of Nice (belonging to the king of Sardinia) and the Republic of Genoa (then neutral) and other Italian states.

Monaco was a French Protectorate since 1642; a French garrison was stationed there to enforce the neutrality of the Principality. During the war of the Austrian succession, Prince Honoré III was personally leading the *Régiment de Monaco* as a colonel in the French army in the Low Countries and on the Rhine.

Detail of sheet 9 of Villaret's 1763 '*carte géomètrique*' showing the territory of the Principality (scale 1:86 400)

[1] Member of the *Société d'Art et d'Histoire de Menton*

[2] See BIMCC Newsletter No 29 (September 2007) for details on JB Cassini and the standard reference work on Cassini: *La carte de Cassini* by Monique Pelletier, Paris, 1990



Manuscript military map of the 1745 campaign 'Marche de La Turbie à Menton'

He nevertheless insisted, with the support of Louis XV, that the neutrality of his Principality be respected during the campaigns in the South. That was nominally the case, in that the fortified place of Monaco was never besieged nor occupied, and that the French garrison never openly supported the French army's operations. However, the rest of the Principality's territory was completely open to the different armies which alternatively camped on the coastal plain between Cap Martin and Menton, while the Carnolet (now called Carnoles) Palace housed the headquarters.

In 1746 the Franco-Spanish armies had to retreat as the Austro-Sardinians pushed into Provence. In 1747, it was the turn of the Austro-Sardinians to pull back and the front line stabilised near the current Franco-Italian boundary, just east of Menton[3].

Until the peace Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1748, when the French gave up the area to the king of Sardinia, the Franco-Spanish armies occupied the Alps down to the Mediterranean coast and military engineers had ample opportunity to explore and survey the land.

In 1745, a series of maps had been drawn to record the location of successive camps and marches as the Franco-Spanish armies entered new territory. The topographical representation on those maps is clearly inaccurate[4].

In 1748, the French Minister of war requested that maps be drawn taking advantage of the triangulation work recently done by Cassini II in neighbouring French provinces.

Pierre Joseph de Bourcet (1700-80), then *ingénieur en chef du roi*[5], surveyed the county of Nice and with *ingénieur-géographe* Montanel, consolidated the survey results with the triangulation basis and drew up the 1:14 400 map; they then expanded it to encompass the Dauphiné area[6].

The original manuscript map ('Carte géomètrique du comté de Nice levee sous la direction de Bourcet', J10C1101) is kept in the French military archives in Vincennes; it comprises 13 large sheets (up to 165 x 80 cm each) in colour. It is a very lively document giving much more detail than the engraved version derived by Villaret, after reduction to a scale of 1:86 400.

Sheet 1 covers the coast from Ventimiglia to the East, to Cap Martin to the West. Sheet 2 continues westwards until Nice and the mouth of the Var river.

The centrefold overleaf reproduces extracts of these two sheets covering the former territory of the Principality of Monaco comprising Cap Martin, Roquebrune and Menton.

In 1848, both 'cities' revolted against Prince Florestan and declared themselves 'villes libres'; in 1860/61, after a popular vote, they were attached to France, at the same time as the county of Nice.

[3] For more detail see: Jean-Louis Renteux 'Menton pendant la Guerre de Succession d'Autriche (1744-1748)' in 'Actes de la XIIème Journée d'Etudes Régionales de Menton, 15 novembre 2008', Société d'Art et d'Histoire du Mentonnais, Menton, 2009

[4] Various versions of these manuscript maps are kept in the Monaco palace archives, in the military archives in Vincennes and the Bibliothèque nationale de France.

[5] He became director general of the fortifications of Dauphiné in 1756 and *lieutenant général* in 1762.

[6] Denis Grisel in 'Du paysage à la carte - Trois siècles de cartographie militaire de la France', Château de Vincennes, 2002. The map of Provence by Bourcet has been updated through a new survey campaign in 1778 by Jean Claude Eléonore Le Michaud d'Arçon.

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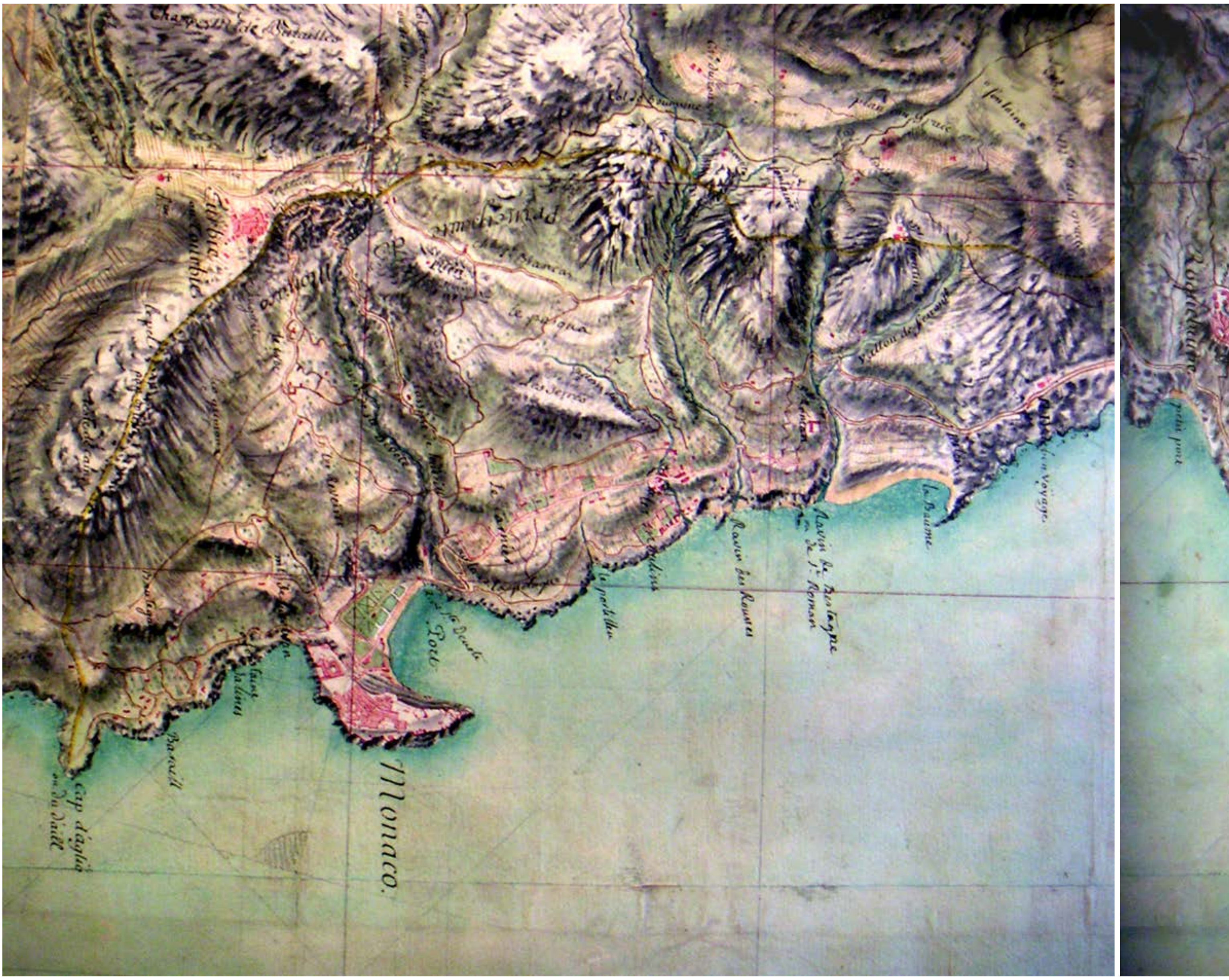

This extract of sheet 2 (left) shows the coastline starting, in the west with ‘Cap d’Aglio ou d’Aill’ just adjacent to the Principality, with, from left to right:

- The city of Monaco itself occupying only part of the fortified rocky promontory; the Prince’s palace can be seen on the mountain side, to the north
- The adjacent ‘Port’ area covered with gardens and orchards; the only building is the ‘Ste Dévote’ chapel
- The ‘la speluge’ area where Monte Carlo was developed around the Casino at the end of the 19th c.
- ‘Le vallon des Moulins’ mentioned in the previous article; there are only a few country houses on the slopes — which are now covered with skyscrapers...

The river bed ‘Restagne ou St Roman’ which now marks the eastern limit of the Principality; the beach beyond the river (‘Monte Carlo Beach’) is now located on the French territory of Roquebrune-Cap Martin.

At the top of this map extract is the town of La Turbie where the Roman emperor Augustus had built his monumental Trophy to celebrate his victories over the Ligurian tribes; the ‘via Julia Augusta’ coming from Rome along the coast climbed to La Turbie to avoid the difficult terrain around Monaco (in fact it was more of a mule track than a road).

The area to the north of La Turbie is marked ‘Champs de batailles’ and was the site of many camps and much fighting during the war of the Austrian succession.

A yellow line to the south of La Turbie marks the boundary between the Principality and the county of Nice; there were many territorial disputes between Monaco and La Turbie over the years.

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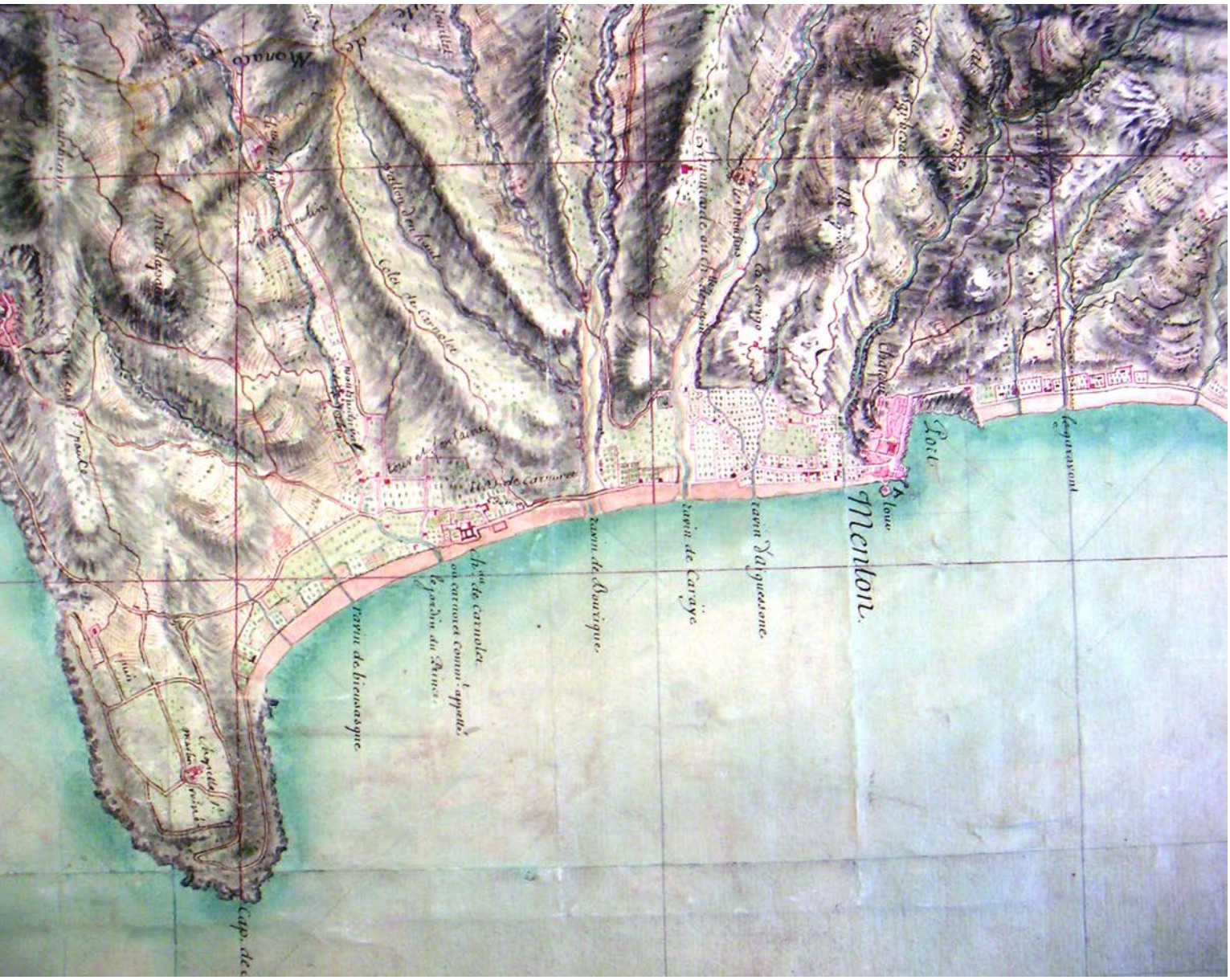
vee sous la direction de Bourcet' ca 1748

ncennes, J10C1101, scale 1:14 400)



The extract of sheet 1 (right) shows the territory of Roquebrune and Menton, two villages which then belonged to Monaco and provided the Princes with most of their revenue.

Roquebrune is a small mountainous village with a medieval castle (overlooking the beach 'Le petit port').

Cap Martin has only one building: a ruined chapel (it is now covered with billionaires' residences…)

On the beach east of 'Cap Martin' is the 'chateau de Carnolet' or 'le jardin du Prince', the country palace which had been built by Prince Antoine the 1st in 1715. During the war of the Austrian Succession, that palace hosted the headquarters, alternatively, of Don Felipe, the Infante of Spain, and of Charles Emmanuel, king of Sardinia. Meanwhile, their troops were camping on the gardens of the coastal plain (now a completely built-up area) thus depriving the local population of its basic means of subsistence.

Menton has about 5 000 inhabitants (far more than Monaco!), but the village is limited to what is known today as 'Vieux Menton' with narrow stairways in lieu of streets… On top of the hill is the 'Château' (now replaced by a cemetery). The 'tour' (tower) standing in the sea can still be seen; it has been incorporated in the breakwater built at the end of the 19th century to protect the 'port'.

To the east of Menton, a stream, 'le Garavant', marks the boundary between the Principality and the Republic of Genoa (the boundary with Italy is now a kilometre farther east).

The purpose of this series of articles is to acquaint readers with interesting cartographic material that can be collected at affordable prices.
On average the subjects treated are valued around 100 Euros. Sometimes more, because at times the value is higher as an item may be exceptionally significant.

Baedeker's old guidebooks

Karl Baedeker (1801-1859) was one of the first producers of travel guides. These guides were so successful that one still speaks about 'the Baedeker' for he set the standard of a valuable guide-book. Before World War I the guides were so significant that 'Baedekering' became an English term for indicating the work of writers specialised in writing travel guides. Their quality in combination with an early date of production, makes them today not only a collectors' item, but even more an affordable one. It is worth mentioning their own publicity – they call themselves the 'Archetypal Travel Guide'.

Karl Baedeker

Karl Baedeker, born in Essen, was the son of a printer and started his own company in 1827 in Koblenz. He published the first guides in 1835, the *Rhine Journey,* followed in 1842 by Germany and Switzerland in 1844. The first French edition dates from 1857 and the first English edition 'The Rhine' from 1861.

After Karl's death his son Fritz moved the company to Leipzig in 1872. He started publishing the non-European guides in different languages including countries such as Palestine, Syria and India, lands not often visited by tourists.

The Second World War destroyed the company. They restarted afterwards with a renewal of their production. The company remained in family hands until 1979 and was then sold to other publishing houses.

The guides are red, the format is small and all are structured in a similar manner to allow the traveller easy consultation. In the early years several countries were covered in one guide e.g. Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg. At the front and back of the book, there is a general country map. The plans of important cities are even

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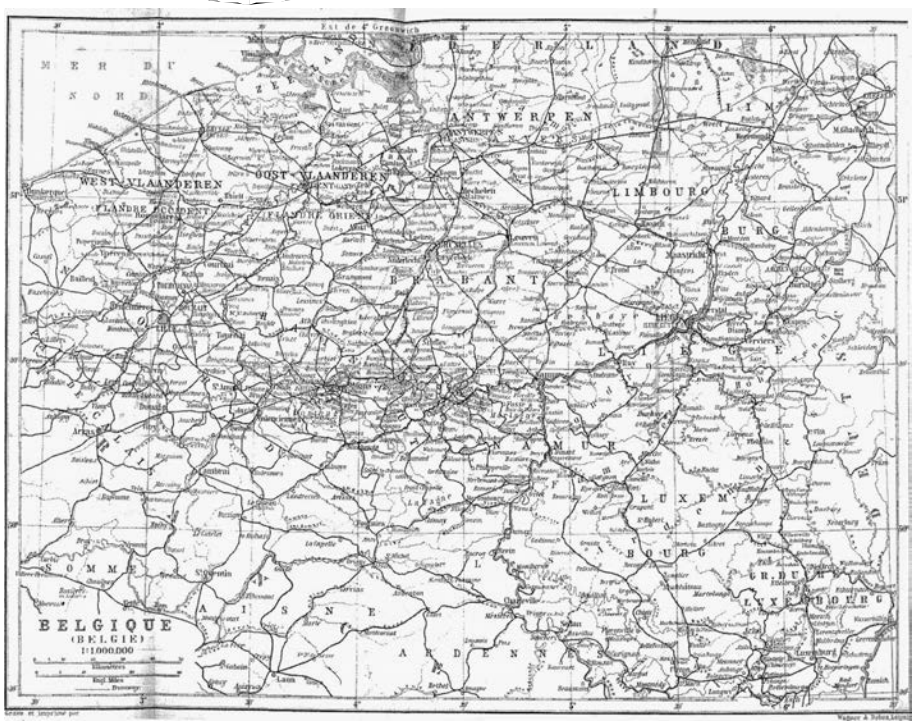
Old maps, prints, atlases
and illustrated books

Belgium (right) and Utrecht (below): Two examples from the guide book 'Belgique et Hollande y compris le Luxembourg, Manuel de voyage' 17e édition, Leipzig, Paris 1901.



shown in colour. Depending on the importance of the cities, the highlights are more or less extensively described. They include street directories, vocabularies, hotel listings and panoramas. Several maps are folding maps.

At the end there is an alphabetical list of important persons and locations.

What gives a Baedeker an antiquarian interest?

They contain maps, street names and hotels with their location. They let your imagination wander through the pre-war cities such as Berlin, Paris and others. The maps give us a view of lands and cities before urbanisation took off.

The price of a book is set by its coverage and the date of edition. The most valuable ones are those with the grey paper jacket and the ones published before the First World War. The more difficult it was to visit a country, especially in the early automobile era, the more valuable the Baedekers are; for example: Egypt 1878, Russia 1914, Switzerland 1863, Benelux 1869 and others such as India and Palestine.

In 1942, Germany organised air attacks called Baedeker Raids on English cities such as Bath, York and Canterbury. All were described as culturally and historically important in the Baedeker. These attacks were in revenge for the Royal Air Force attacks on German cities. During World War II the German government ordered the publication of guides to occupied European countries and regions, such as Poland, Ukraine and the Alsace-Lorraine annexed by Germany.

Over the years, The Baedekers became a cultural object in books as well as in movies. Agatha Christie mentions a Baedeker in *Murder on the Nile,* Ernest Hemingway cites the guide in his novel *Across the river and into the trees*. The guides are also mentioned in the stories of Sherlock Holmes by Conan Doyle.

Baedeker remains to this day a benchmark for guidebooks. If you intend to travel today and were to use an old Baedeker, you might live another travel experience. I would advise you to collect them rather than use them!

Eric Leenders
ericleenders@scarlet.be

BIMCC Annual Activity Report 2009

I would like to start with a special tribute to our webmaster. Not only has he developed a very impressive website, but he is also succeeding in keeping it up-to-date.

Also our editor and his team merit our gratitude for the increasing cartographic content which they developed in the Newsletter. We are slowly moving from Newsletter to cartographic Journal. This enables us to start thinking about another name. This is in keeping with the ideas which I put forward at the start of my Presidency.

On request of the Romanian National Museum of Maps in Bucharest, a BIMCC delegation went to visit it and made a substantial report on the changes that would be necessary in order to promote the Museum.

The proceedings of our international conference 'Formatting Europe – Mapping a continent', held in 2007 in the context of Europalia, were finally published in *Belgeo*, the journal of the Belgian Geographical Society.

Our annual autumn visit took us to the Sincfala Museum at Knokke-Heist. We were introduced to the cartographic changes along our coastline as a result of the eighty years' war of independence. Thereafter we visited during a healthy walk, the Retranchement area and were invited by one of our members to see his private collection in Knokke.

Finally our annual conference on 'Exploratory cartography' was held in December at the Royal Library of Belgium in Brussels. It was well attended, the presentations were interesting and our cartographic imagination was highly stimulated. The event ended as tradition commands in a convivial way.

Eric Leenders
President BIMCC

12th Annual General Meeting
Saturday 20 March 2010 at Ghent

Once again we have changed our meeting place and hope we will now stay put for years to come. Paul De Candt, founder of Aquaterra in Ghent and one of our members offered us the use of his meeting room. Caroline, his sister and our Vice-President, became our most charming and skilful hostess with the help of Paul's daughter. The move to Ghent did not affect the enthusiasm of our members, 23 of whom registered for the occasion.

Paul first gave a presentation on Aquaterra's business, i.e. 'Mapmaking in the 21st century' (see article on page 26) and offered a guided tour of the premises and technical installations.

After thanking Paul and Caroline, the President welcomed the members to the AGM. The required voting quorum was largely obtained.

After adopting the agenda some changes were voted by the Active Members.

Roland Delrue, who held the difficult job of Treasurer for two years, resigned and left us as an Active member. Alex Smit is also leaving the Executive Committee.

Peter Galezowski and Eddy Masschalck are becoming Active members as well as members of the Executive Committee. Eddy Masschalck is the new Treasurer and also Membership Secretary.

The 2009 accounts, drafted by Roland Delrue and Eric Leenders, were adopted. So was the budget for 2010. The Executive Committee is well aware of the general financial crisis and is taking the necessary steps as to be able to perform and organise the circle's activities.

The programme for 2010 is being organised. The autumn visit will be to Middelburg, where D. De Vries will show us the considerable cartographic content of the Zeeland's Archives and the 'Koninklijk Zeeuws Genootschap van Wetenschappen' (Royal Zeeland Society for Sciences).

The annual conference will take place at the Royal Library in Brussels on Saturday 11 December 2010. The main subject will be the cartography of China. That will enable members also to visit the annual Antiquarian book and map fair in Mechelen.

The discharge of the Executive Committee Members was adopted.

Eric Leenders
President BIMCC

'Formatting Europe-Mapping a Continent'

The Proceedings of the 6th International BIMCC Conference, which took place on 16 November 2007, at the Royal Library of Belgium (KBR), were published last year and received very good reviews:

- 'highly recommended to all interested in cartography' (Cartographica Helvetica 41-2010)
- 'the proceedings are fascinating to read…' (IMCoS Journal No 121).

There are only very few copies left which can be acquired (at a cost of EUR 30.00) by contacting the BIMCC or BELGEO (see details in Newsletter No 35).

BIMCC Programme for 2010

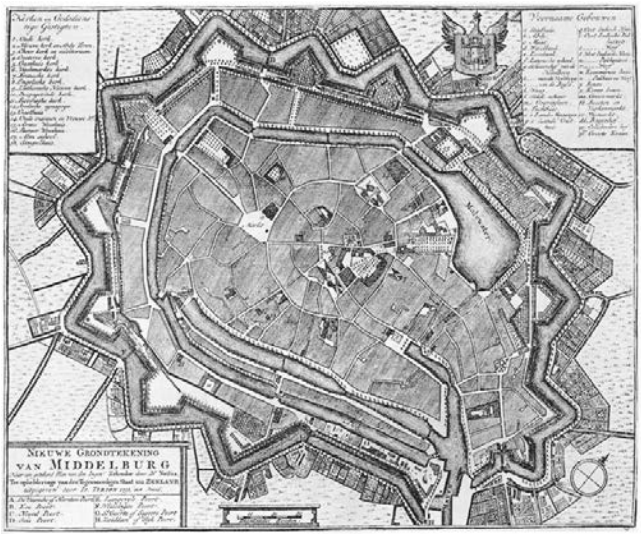
- **Friday 29 October 2010: BIMCC Autumn excursion to Middelburg (The Netherlands)**

Our yearly visit will take us to that ancient city just across the River Scheldt, Middelburg in Zeeland.

Dirk De Vries, retired Head of the Bodel Nijenhuis Map Collection at the University of Leiden recently became the Conservator of the 'Zeelandia Illustrata Collection' at the Zeeland's Archives. The staff will introduce us, in English, to this jewel of an archive. Dirk, one of our members, will lead us through the outstanding map collection.

The visit will start at 13.30 and will end at 15.30 with a convivial drink.

Detailed information, registration and practical instructions will be given in the September Newsletter.



- **Saturday 11 December 2010: BIMCC Annual Conference on China at the Royal Library of Belgium in Brussels**

China has kept herself isolated during a long time. The West has long been intrigued by this country, but depended on scarce information provided by many Western travellers such as Marco Polo, the Jesuits, Ricci and Verbiest amongst others. The Silk Road played a major role in the discovery of that different civilisation.

Today, China is opening up and arouses our curiosity. To contribute to this development the BIMCC has chosen to introduce you to the cartography of this vast region.

Provisional Conference Programme:

- Hilde De Weerdt, Lecturer in Chinese History at the University of Oxford, will describe the maps of the Chinese Empire before the 14th century.

- Western influence and the role of the Jesuits on mapping the Empire.

- Stanislas De Peuter – Martino Martini's Novus Atlas Sinensis (J. Blaeu), a highlight of Western mapping in China.

- Hans Kok – IMCoS Chairman: Maps have not always been faithful images. Some on account of cartographical mistakes, others deliberately as a societal or political joke. Some islands south of China, did not escape this cartography 'light'.

A private exhibition of 15-20 maps of China , especially the ones drawn by Martino Martini, will be held in the conference room. The Martino Martini maps from the exhibition will be projected onto a large screen for discussion and comment.

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

BIMCC 12th Map evening (20 March 2010)

This was a lively session where we were introduced to sets of maps – a great variety all presented in lively fashion. Given the number, the time available for each was limited. This left us all very enthusiastic and wanting more.

- **Wulf Bodenstein – Maps of 'la Région Centre' by Franz Johan von Reilly, 1806**

First up was Wulf, whose known interest in maps of Africa has now extended to the Région Centre in France, since acquiring a home near Orléans. The first port of call for French maps being those of Cassini, Wulf was interested to find a map showing his village by von Reilly, an Austrian. Von Reilly published different types of maps and planned 'The Theatre of the five parts of the world', of which only Western Europe was published. Among the 830 copper-plate maps of Europe, 128 concern France. Wulf acquired the maps of the six 'departments' and districts which make up the 'Centre'. From these, his wife, a bookbinder, has made the customized atlas which he showed us, comprising 14 maps.

- **Francis Herbert – Tourist maps of Cologne and Strasbourg – 1840s**

Both leaflets advertise hotels (the Vienna Hotel in Cologne, and the Red House Inn in Strasbourg), together with the cities themselves and their main points of interest, and the "how to get there"...in German, French and English. Francis had done some detective work in order to date the items, using, for example, the railway station on the Cologne map, and the name of Fazioli, a printer who died in Strasbourg in 1850, for the Strasbourg map. They are beautifully put together with neat calligraphy and drawings, not to mention the maps. Francis suggested that BIMCC might take bi/multilingual publicity for tourists as a theme for a future meeting.

Eddy Masschalck and the siege of Ostend

- **Eddy Masschalck – The siege of Ostend – 1706, from Rapin's Military History of England 1750**

Around 1520, Deventer was making maps around the Ostend area. In 1584 Antwerp was taken by the Spanish. The local people in the Ostend area dug a waterway from the coast through the dunes to cut off the town. Water flooded in and prevented the Spanish from taking Ostend. 1601-1604 saw the first siege of Ostend (which has gone down in the international history books as the 'new Troy' as it lasted so long). Canals were later built from Ghent to Bruges and from Bruges to Ostend as the Scheldt had been closed. The map shows Ostend at the time of the second siege (1706) when the canals were in place. The sixteenth century local action can still be appreciated today, as the harbour and 'basins' of Ostend, originally cut through in the sixteenth century, form today's port of Ostend.

- **Christophe Klein – 21st century globes of Mars and Venus**

Christophe showed us his latest acquisitions. The Mars globe originated in Japan (the writing on it is in Japanese and Latin). Key areas to look at are the highest mountain of the solar system – Olympus Mons - 15 kilometres high, and the deepest canyon - Valles Marineris which is three times deeper than the Grand Canyon. On Venus, Maxwell Montes is 11 kilometres high, while the Cleopatra crater on Maxwell is 105 kilometres in diameter.

Wulf asked an intriguing question: How can you measure height if you have no sea level? (Still to be answered…Christophe??)

- **Pieter Hanssens – Den Vlaemschen Alarm – Nicolaes Geelkercke - 1621-1693**

A ‘news’ map – one with text describing a historical event. During the eighty years’ war in the Low Countries, in 1604, Sluys and Cadzand were occupied by the ‘rebels’.

The *nieuwskaart* has to take our interest, not only for the nice copperplate engraving from N. Geelkercke, but even more for the text which was printed on the same sheet. The print and text describe the course of one event ‘Den Vlaemschen Alarm’. It is written with nuances as lively as a tragedy of Shakespeare.

Pieter also showed us a book by Justus Lipsius from Leuven who also wrote on military matters, ‘de Militia Romana’.

- **Hans Kok – Dieppe – Romain de Hooghe – 1693**

This map shows the coast but also excellent town view inserts of Dieppe and Rouen. It is one of a series of nine published in the Neptune François.

- **Hans Kok – York to Scarborough strip map – Ogilby – 1674-76**

Hans presented the road ‘strip’ map showing the way from York to Scarborough. One hundred of these copper-plate maps were published by Thomas Gardner, London 1719. These maps by Ogilby were the first to use the statute mile – 1760 yards. Nice touches include the signpost, the compasses at each change of direction, and the hills (right way up or upside down) to indicate the way up or down.

- **Stanislas de Peuter – Caprarola – Braun and Hogenberg – 1598**

Stanislas combined the presentation of his Braun and Hogenberg with his holiday snaps…just to get everything into perspective! This is a plan of the house and grounds of the sixteenth century palace built for the Farnese family, 50 km north of Rome, 1559-1575. It’s built in the shape of a pentagon with an inner courtyard. Inside there is a *Sala de Mappae Mundi* – Stanislas and his son managed to gain entry!

- **Stanislas de Peuter – Dejima – Van der Aa – ca 1729**

Dejima was a Dutch trading post just outside Nagasaki. It was first built for the Portuguese who were then kicked out. The Dutch East India Company moved there from Hirado in 1641. Although proud of having Dejima, the Dutch were restricted to a very limited area. The Japanese have now started to restore the area, as they are getting interested in this part of their history.

- **Paul De Candt – Sluis/Zwin area – Claes Jansz. Visscher – 1627**

The map shows the area between Knokke and Heist before the land was built on.

- **Eric Leenders – Parcel Cadastral map – Popp – ca. 1850**

Eric showed us a map true to nature, about which he wrote in Newsletter No 36 p. 22 under ‘collectable – affordable’.

Nicola Boothby
nicola.boothby@swift.com

Stanislas De Peuter and the Farnese palace, now and then

Cartography in the 21st century

So you thought making maps in the present era was just about pushing some buttons? Think again: it is a long, complex and often painstaking process…

Paul De Candt[1]
pdc@aquaterra.be

In the early nineties, cartographic production was completely changed by computer technology and the creation of geographic databases.

Initially this new mapping technique was complicated and difficult if one wanted to obtain the cartographic quality of the previous traditional production methods.

For centuries, cartographic production was based on meticulous manual map drawing and engraving printing plates. Map publishing or printing evolved from manuscript maps to woodcut plate based printing to copperplate printing (before 1500) and lithography (ca 1800).

16th century map production

The 20th century opened new ways for colour printing by using four colour plates or films (CYMK colour table). Even for this process, map making was done by map drawing techniques and film engraving.

Then, in the early nineties, the computer revolution initiated new ways of map production.

In this new digital technology, companies like Apple and Adobe Systems © created the Postscript language as a new standard for digital printed output. The technique enabled an operator to draw objects, lines and text for map publishing onscreen and print a high quality result to a postscript printer.

Within this new environment, the way was open for professional cartographic production. However such capability does not come overnight….

First one needs the proper software tools to create or draw maps and secondly one needs geographic data as basic map content. Both criteria are essential and must guarantee a map quality similar to or better than existing maps. As a consequence, it took several years to gain sufficient computer performance and experience for map making. Although very soon Desktop Publishing (DTP) generated new and extraordinary digital capabilities, map making needed another level of production and complexity. For professional map production specific needs and tools were essential.

Geographic data was another restraining factor in this process, as one needs sufficient data coverage and object information (e.g. street names, road category, etc) to create the maps. The data must also have proper geographic projection information and scale-related data content. Today, two major players generate worldwide geographic data content: Tele Atlas and Navteq. Both provide street level road content and add more and more thematic elements to these databases: Poi's (points of interest), speed limits on roads, industrial areas, and road info (road number, street names, etc).

Even today, during map production, additional map data are digitized or imported from several sources to gain sufficient map information and create a high map quality.

Clients often need specific cartographic and cosmetic features that have to be created digitally. As a consequence, the digital process and software development is never completed but needs regular customising to external criteria. Even the data-formats for import and export change constantly.

For today's map production one must consider three production stages:

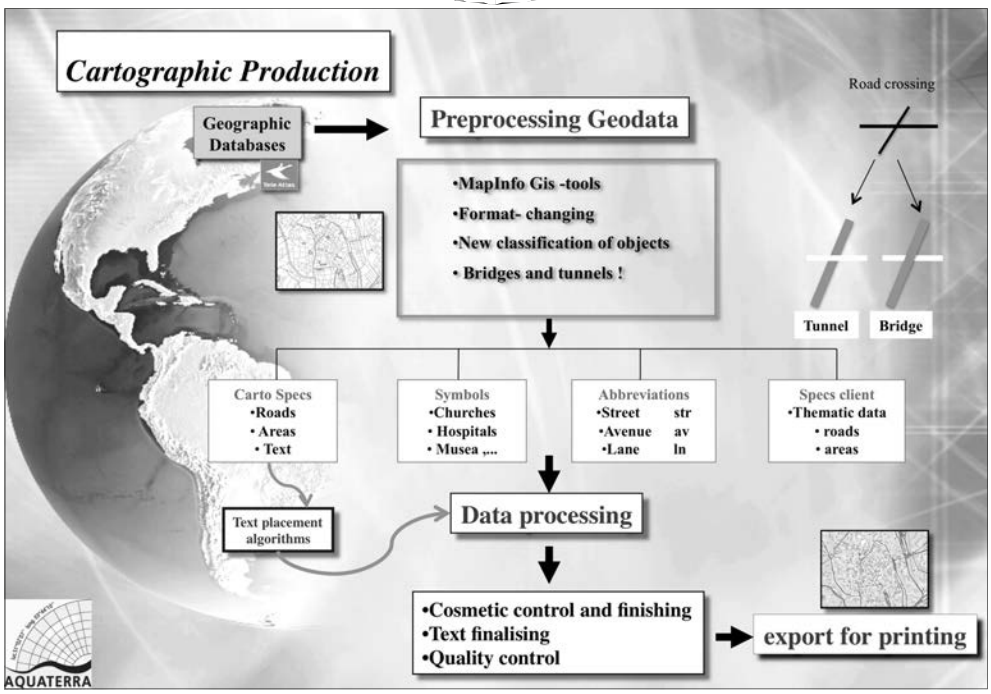
1 - Pre-processing of the map geo-data:

- The map content is extracted from the existing geo-databases, reprocessed into the required map projection and rescaled for final map printing requirements.
- Other missing thematic data for the map is added to comply with clients' needs
- A cartographic legend is prepared to set the final specifications for all road and map features
- Symbols are generated or allocated to map objects such as churches, hotels, landmarks, etc….
- Procedures are set to allow street and road name placement and other topographic names. Criteria for 'anti-overposing constraints' are set to avoid cluttered and overlapping street names.

2 - Geodata-processing:

- This is a "number crunching" operation taking into account all map parameters prepared in the pre-processing stage

[1] Paul is the founder and Managing Director of Aquaterra nv, Gent - Belgium (www.aquaterra.be)



21st century map production

- Text placement algorithms are executed to enable optimal and automatic street- and road name placement. Toponyms are allocated to the most appropriate locations avoiding overlapping text items.

- Map quality is verified onscreen in a first phase and based on a direct output on large-format printers in a second stage

- Final cosmetic corrections and settings are done interactively on screen as full automatic map production is never sufficient

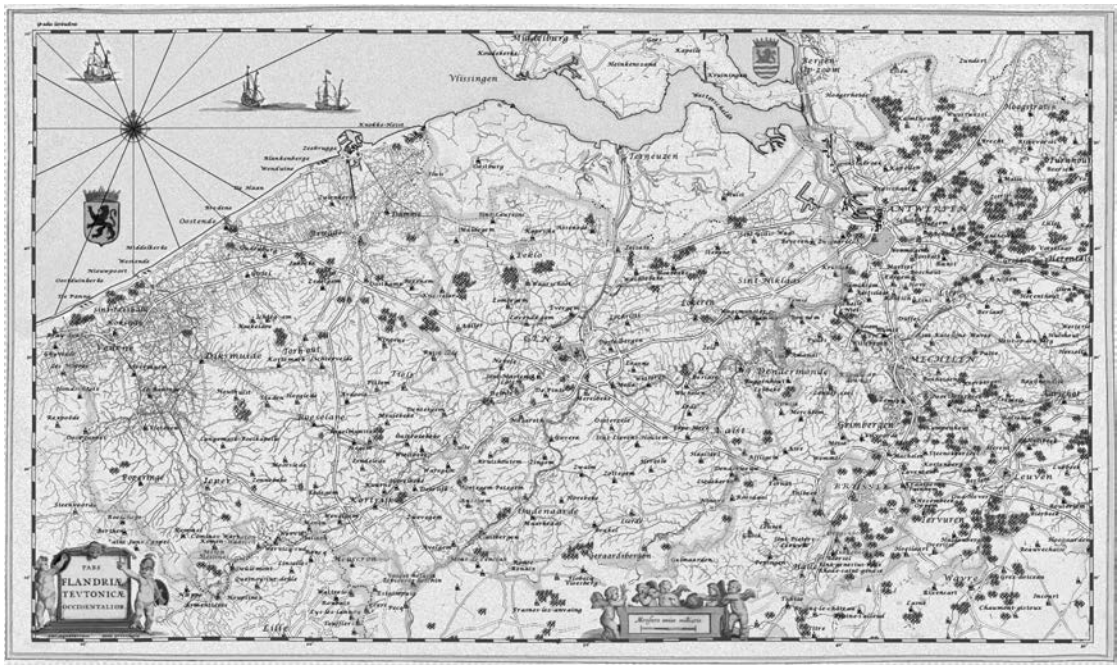
3 - Digital export for printing:

- In this last stage the finalised digital map is exported in a pdf (Postscript) format allowing direct printing to film or plate for colour printing.

- In other cases the map is exported into a digital format (e.g. raster) complying with the clients' final output requirements.

As digital map production is more and more optimised the quest for cosmetic finesse and quality will continue. Today map production is more and more focused on digital use through new media like the Internet, smart phones, digital billboards, IPad ©, etc.

Cartography in the 21st century is a very demanding and ever changing activity, especially if one aims for high-quality customised maps. Although software automation and geo-databases will continue to grow and enable fast map production, cartography will always require experience and map 'affinity' in the same way our predecessors of the 16th and 17th centuries proved to have shown us.



An example for BIMCC members: 21st century map data re-processed into 16th century map cosmetics.

Glenn van den Bosch, who compiled information for this department of the Newsletter for many years, has now decided to focus his energy on his many other areas of interest.
In order to fill this gap, the BIMCC is reviewing its policy regarding 'International News & Events', recognising that its website is now the main vehicle for conveying information. This Newsletter will merely give a snapshot, three times a year, of the information available on-line.
Our webmaster, Pierre Parmentier, updates our site regularly with information gleaned by surfing on other cartographic and historical sites and, more important, with news items and annoucements received from BIMCC members and correspondents.
We therefore invite all our readers to send news 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

Imago Mundi

As many of you are aware, 2010 is the 75th anniversary of Imago Mundi (founded in Berlin in 1935 by Leo Bagrow). To mark the occasion, a Special Issue is being prepared under the Guest Editorship of Professor Mike Heffernan (University of Nottingham).

e-Perimetron

The new issue of *e-Perimetron* [Vol. 5, No. 2, 2010] is now available on the net: http://www.e-perimetron.org
- De Boer A: Processing old maps and drawings to create virtual historic landscapes,
- Chias P., T. Abad: The nautical charts of the Spanish Mediterranean coasts in the 18th and 19th centuries: digital methods to compare the cartographical techniques of the main European Navies,
- Bročić P., I. Kordić, E. Sarajlić: Archives of nautical charts and publications, HHI museum in its formative stage,
- Montaner C., R. Roset: Impact of the internet users on the Map Library of Catalonia access collections,
- Gercsák G., M. Márton: New terminology of differentiating digital facsimiles,
- Livieratos E.: A variant of Rigas Velestinlis Version-A Charta: The Kapesovo copy,

Creation of the Malta Map Society

The first meeting of the very first Malta Map Society was held on Saturday 6 March 2010 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Valletta.
Dr. Albert Ganado was nominated President of the new society. The statutes of the new society were approved and eight Committee members were appointed. At the present time there are some 30 members.
A number of topics were discussed such as the immediate setting up of a website, documenting the numerous old oil paintings on the island which feature maps and which are found mostly in private collections, the maps kept at the National Library and the National Maritime Museum.
Meetings of the new society will be held at the Museum of Fine Arts in Valletta, which presently houses the Albert Ganado Malta Map Collection.
People interested in this society may contact its Secretary, Joseph Schiro: joseph.schiro@onvol.net

Opening of the Royal Library in Warsaw

On 14 June 2010 the Royal Castle Library in Warsaw was finally opened in a moving ceremony held in the presence of the representatives of the Ministry for the National Heritage and other cultural institutions, and of Dr Marie-Luise Niewodniczańska, widow of the library's principal benefactor, Dr Tomasz Niewodniczański whose unique collection of Polish maps, manuscripts and printed works now constitutes the bulk of the newly restored and reopened Royal Library's collections. The collection is housed in the wing specially built by the king for his own collections towards the close of the 18th century before the country's dismemberment. It is the only wing of the royal castle to have escaped destruction in the last war. The entire collection is now under the able stewardhip of its curator, Dr Kazimierz Kozica, former assistant to Dr Niewodniczański in Bitburg. The ceremony was accompanied by an exhibition designed to emphasize the collector's historic achievement and showing the interaction between Polish and European cartography over the centuries.

Events

La carte d'aujourd'hui aux multiples visages (To-day's map with its many facets)

Tuesday 29 June 2010

Paris

Conference (in French) on cartographic production and technological changes since the 19th century. By Guillaume Lebailly.

18.30 – 20.00 - Salle des commissions
5, rue Vivienne, 75002 Paris - BnF Site Richelieu
Free, upon reservation (+33 1 53 79 49 49)
URI: http://www.bnf.fr/fr/evenements_et_culture/calendrier_manifestations/f.histoires_cartes_plans.html?seance=1223903308031

15. Kartographiehistorisches Colloquium (15th Colloquium on the History of Cartography)

2 – 4 September 2010

Munich, Germany

Organized by the Kommission Geschichte der Kartographie der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Kartographie (History Commission of the German Society of Cartography) and D-A-CH Arbeitsgruppe (Working Group of German, Austrian and Swiss Historians of Cartography). Excursions are planned around the three-day colloquium to visit places with significant map collections, such as the Monastery of Füssen, Ingolstadt or specific Bavarian libraries.

To register, and for any further information, contact Dr Markus Heinz, Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – PK, Kartenabteilung, Potsdamer Str. 33, D-10785 Berlin,
Tel. +49-30-266-43 55 00, + 49-30-266-43 55 00, fax + 49-30-266-33 54 01,
E-mail: kartographiegeschichte@sbb.spk-berlin.de
Location: Landesamt für Vermessung und Geoinformation Bayern, Alexandrastrasse 4, 80538 München
URI: http://www.kartengeschichte.ch/dach/

Beyond the neat line: More than just geography

8 - 10 September 2010

Cambridge, England

The Map Curators' Group of the British Cartographic Society is pleased to invite map curators, map librarians, archivists and all those entrusted with the care of maps to its 2010 Workshop at Cambridge University Library.

- Wednesday 8 September

Martin Andrews, University of Reading Department of Typography, 18th and 19th century map-printing processes
Steve Chilton and Ifan Shepherd, Middlesex University, Staff carriers and bean counters: Unravelling the who and the why of the first 6-inch survey of England and Wales
Marco van Egmond, Map Curator, Utrecht University Library: Collecting digital cartographic data in Utrecht - storage and accessibility
Matt Knutzen, Geospatial Librarian, The New York Public Library Map Division, Maps@NYPL: New collaborative methods in (re)presenting historical geography
Richard Oliver, University of Exeter, Honorary Research Fellow in the History of Cartography: 20th century Ordnance Survey paper map marginalia and metadata

- Thursday 9 September:

Seppe Cassettari and Fiona Cocks of The GeoInformation Group will lead two demonstration sessions: A Beginner's Guide to UK Map and Discovering the Past through Aerial Photography. After lunch: 'Town and gown' walking tour of Cambridge, and then delegates have a choice of visits to the Whipple Museum of the History of Science, whose internationally known collection of early scientific instruments includes one of the country's finest collections of globes, or Gonville & Caius College Archive, where the collections span eight centuries and some of their cartographic treasures will be on display.

- Friday 10 September: a coach will take the participants to London where the British Library Map Collections will host a private guided tour of the major exhibition Magnificent Maps: Power, Propaganda and Art, conducted by curators Peter Barber and Tom Harper.

Contact: Anne Taylor, Cambridge University Library, West Road, Cambridge CB3 9DR. E-mail: aemt2@cam.ac.uk
URI: http://www.cartography.org.uk/downloads/MCG/MCG_Sept2010_brochure_final.pdf

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

The tradition goes on!

A new Dutch map fair will take place at STAVERDEN

Friday 1st October (14-20h) and

Saturday 2nd October (10-18h)

The map fair takes place in a chateau located in the heart of the Veluwe area
(10 min. from Hardewijk or 20 min. from Apeldoorn):
Kasteel Staverden, Staverdenseweg 283, NL-3852 Ermelo

The fair has been initiated by cartographic antiquarian Edward Wells B.V.
20 Dealers will exhibit

Admission is 6€.

www.staverdenmapfair.nl/nl/contact-route

info@staverdenmapfair.nl

The International Map Collectors' Society 28th International Symposium

3 - 6 October 2010
London

Theme of the Symposium: *Britain - Power & Influence in the 17th & 18th Centuries*
Organized by IMCoS (International Map Collectors' Society).
For the full programme, see IMCoS Web site.
URI: http://www.imcos.org/london2010main.htm

3rd International Symposium on the History of Cartography - *Charting the Cartography of Chartered Companies*

10 - 13 October 2010
Arlington, Texas, USA

Organized in conjunction with
- the 7th Biennial Virginia Garrett Lectures on the History of Cartography (Friday 8 October 2010);
- the Fall Meeting of the Texas Map Society (Saturday 9 October 2010);
- a Special Map Exhibition in the gallery of Special Collections at the University of Texas at Arlington;
- technical and social excursions, and
- a meeting of the ICA Commission on Maps and Society.

This Symposium is organized by the International Cartographic Association (ICA) Commission, in collaboration with the Chair in the History of Cartography at the University of Texas at Arlington, Special Collections at UTA Library, and the Texas Map Society.
The Symposium will be open to all cartographers, geographers, historians, map collectors, academics and lay persons interested in the history of cartography, especially but not restricted to the period from the mid-18th to the mid-20th centuries.
URI: http://www.icahistcarto.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=35&Itemid=37

Warburg Lectures, London

Cartographic Race Games in Europe: Entertainment, Education - or Influence?
4 November 2010
Lecture by Professor Adrian Seville (formerly City University, London).

The Compost of Ptolemy and the Gosson Map (1600/1623?): English Geographic Thought and the Early Modern Print Almanac
2 December 2010
Lecture by Prof. Meg Roland (English Literature and Writing, Marylhurst University, Oregon).

The First Two Centuries of Mercator Projection Sea Charts: Positioning the Practitioners, Leaving the Ships at Sea?
20 January 2011
Lecture by Gillian Hutchinson (National Maritime Museum, Greenwich).

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).
Enquiries: +44 20 8346 5112, +44 20 8346 5112 (Dr Delano Smith) or info@tonycampbell.info.
Meetings are held at The Warburg Institute, University of London, Woburn Square, London WC1H OAB at 17.00.
Admission is free.
URI: http://www.maphistory.info/warburgprog.html

Mapping Africa from the Ninth to the Nineteenth Century. Construction, Transmission and Circulation of Cartographic Knowledge about Africa (Europe, Arab world and Africa)

Cartographier l'Afrique IXe-XIXe siècle. Construction, transmissions et circulations des savoirs cartographiques sur l'Afrique (Europe, Monde Arabe et Afrique)

2 - 3 December 2010
Paris, France

Colloquium organised by the Centre d'études des mondes africains (CEMAf, Centre for the Study of African Worlds)
URI: http://www.cemaf.cnrs.fr/spip.php?article455

Exhibitions

Armateurs et Navigateurs Dieppois (XVI-XIXe) [Ship-owners and Navigators of Dieppe from the 16th to the 19th centuries]

30 May – 4 July 2010
Dieppe, France

Dieppe is famous, in the cartographic world, for its school of chartmakers. Most of the charts produced there as of about 1540 by Nicolas Desliens, Jean Rotz, Pierre Descelliers, Guillaume le Testu, Jean Guérard (to name only these) are now dispersed around the world, but the Dieppe Municipal Library still possesses some interesting vestiges of its glorious past which will be on display. For example, Jean and Raoul Parmentier's parchment manuscript of 1529 relating their Voyage to the East Indies, Jean Guérard's manuscript *Traité de l'hidrographie* (1630), Ozanne's 1785 atlas of French ports, and the 19th century plans for a huge four-mast battleship of a length of 130 m, carrying 250 cannons, by Guillaume-Abraham Vasse, are among the exhibits.

Médiathèque Jean Renoir, 1 Quai Bérigny, F-76374 Dieppe,
Tel +33(0)235-06 62 62,
e-mail bm.renoirfancien@mairie-dieppe.fr .
Open Tuesday to Saturday, 14.00 to 18.30.

Voyage urbain à travers les siècles (Urban journey through the centuries)

10 July – August 2010
Montivilliers, Seine-Maritime, France

The exhibition presents a selection of manuscripts, maps and plans representative of the history and of the urban evolution of the city of Montivilliers. Prolong the visit by a stroll through the medieval vestiges of the city.

Guided tour of the exhibition (in French) every Saturday.
Bibliothèque Condorcet, 50 rue Léon Gambetta
F-76290 Montivilliers
Tel. +33 2 35 30 96 10, +33 2 35 30 96 10
URI: http://www.arl-haute-normandie.fr/Agenda-Voyage-urbain-a-travers-les-siecles-2092.htm?page=1

Magnificent Maps: Power, Propaganda and Art

30 April - 19 September 2010
London, UK

This exhibition will display some of the masterpieces of cartography from the middle ages to the present day, several of which have never been shown before. It will try to recreate the settings for which the maps were originally intended and thereby demonstrate the important role that maps played as works of art and as instruments of propaganda in the broader culture of their times. Visitors will be shown rooms from a palace, the home of a merchant/landowner, a class-room and a secretary of state's office. Nor will the open-air display of maps and globes be ignored. While the emphasis will be on the early modern period in Europe, there will be exhibits from throughout the world, which will extend from medieval times to the modern day including contemporary works by Grayson Perry and Stephen Walters'.

At the British Library, St Pancras, 96 Euston Road, London.
isit http://www.bl.uk for more information.

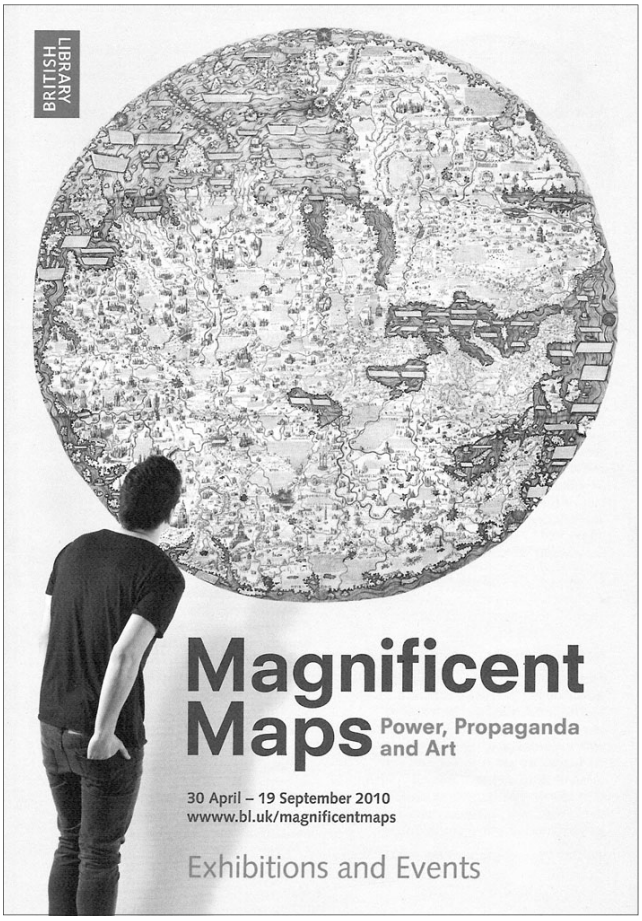
Du Havre...au-delà des mers. Explorateurs, voyageurs et négociants (XVIe - XXe siècles)

[From Le Havre beyond the seas. Explorers, travellers and traders (16th - 20th c.)]

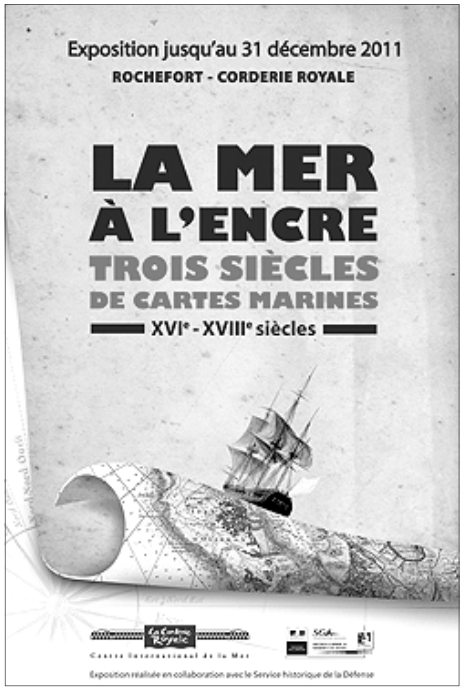
2 October – 31 December 2010
Le Havre, France

From Verrazano to Jean Charcot, ten itineraries of travellers who started from Le Havre to discover, explore and trade across the oceans; travel through manuscripts, maps, plans and rare documents. Guided tours and animations.

Bibliothèque Armand Salacrou
17 rue Jules Lecesne
76600 Le Havre
Tel.: +33 2 32 74 07 40, +33 2 32 74 07 40
URI: http://www.arl-haute-normandie.fr/Agenda-Du-Havre...au-dela-des-mers.-Explorateurs,-voyageurs-et-negociants--XVIe---XXe-siecles--2095.htm?page=1



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



La mer à l'encre. Trois siècles de cartes marines, XVIe - XVIIIe siècles

[The sea in ink. Three centuries of sea charts, 16th - 18th c.]

1 February 2010 - December 2011
Rochefort, France

The arsenal built in Rochefort for Louis XIV produced the finest warships of the *Marine Royale*. One of its longest buildings, *la Corderie Royale* (rope-making plant), has been renovated and now hosts a variety of historical exhibitions.

The debut of the current one has been disturbed by the floods caused by Xynthia, the catastrophic storm of 28 February 2010.

This exhibition focuses on marine charts and is complemented by a display of ancient navigation instruments, by magnificent images and multi-media animations. It stages the confrontation between abstract cartography and practical navigation, between the eye of the cartographer and the actual experience of the pilot.

The exhibition comprises three parts:

- a presentation of the extraordinary cartographic production of Norman ports (Dieppe, Honfleur, Rouen) in the 16th c., compared to the reality of dead reckoning navigation in the Renaissance period,
- the central part devoted to the cartographical masterpiece of the French classical century, *le Neptune François* (1693), resulting from the remarkable State undertaking initiated by Colbert,
- finally the visitor is embarked, through video-projected filmed theatre, onto the bridge of a ship and into a debate between a 18th century cartographer, absorbed in complex calculations, and a sea captain, stressed by the very real obstacles confronting him.

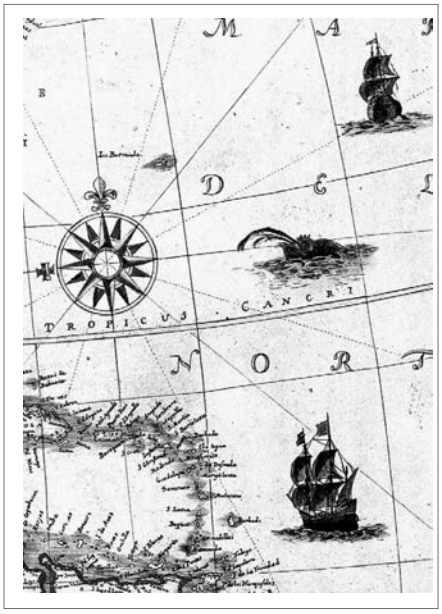
The exhibition has been organised with the French *Service Historique de la Défense (*SHD) Marine department in Rochefort, and with the support of the National Geographic Institute and of the National Marine Museum.

La Corderie Royale, BP 50108, F-17303 Rochefort Cedex
Telephone : +33 5 46 87 01 90, +33 5 46 87 01 90
URI: http://www.corderie-royale.com/fr/actuellement/exposition-temporaire-la-mer-l-encre-trois-siecles-de-cartes-marines-du-xvie-au-xviiie-siecle.html

The mysterious rose is a fake!

In the last Newsletter, Wulf Bodenstein raised a question regarding the compass rose I had inserted, as a decoration, in Newsletter No 35 (page 36): why does this rose not follow the usual convention, i.e. have the latin cross on the right-hand side of the north-oriented compass rose, thus pointing East, in the direction of the Holy City of Jerusalem?

Fortunately, we do have real specialists among our Newsletter's readers! And Tony Campbell had a ready explanation: 'Sadly, it is not a genuine addition to cartographic history but, instead, a modern fake. It comes from a version of 'America Septentrionalis', with the imprint: 'Amstelodami / Excusum apud Iudocum et Henricum Hondium. Anno 1631'. The faker had not done his homework because Jodocus Hondius Jr died in 1629. I describe this on my Fakes pages: http://www.maphistory.info/fakesnotes.html#hondiusnorthamerica….Not only has the faker reversed the compass rose he was copying but he has placed it, meaninglessly, on a map with converging meridians. Somebody really must set up history of cartography courses for our fakers! '



Jean-Louis Renteux
editor@bimcc.org

AUCTION CALENDAR

This calendar is now limited to those antiquarians and map dealers who support the BIMCC.
For details contact the President (ericleenders@scarlet.be)

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26 June 2010

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tel. +31 70 364 98 40/41
fax +31 70 364 33 40
www.vanstockums-veilingen.nl
info@vanstockums-veilingen.nl
1 - 2 September, 3 - 4 November, 8 - 9 December 2010

De Eland
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NL-1112 AP Diemen
tel. +31 20 623 03 43
www.deeland.nl, info@deeland.nl
12 September, 21 November 2010

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morel_de_westgaver@brutele.be
18 September 2010

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paulus@swaen.com
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1 - 2 October 2010

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2 October 2010

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12 October, 7 December 2010

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5 November 2010 (Salle Drouot)

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www.bassenge.com
art@bassenge.com
20 - 23 October, 25 - 27 Nov., 1 December 2010

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11 December 2010

In the forthcoming BIMCC Newsletters do not miss ...

- *The former Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth as depicted in albums and atlases,* by Dr Lucyna Szaniawska (translation: Peter Galezowski)
- *A surprise experience: two portolans at Cefalù,* by Wulf Bodenstein
- *Evolution of the maps of Brabant*, by Herman Deijnckens and Eric Leenders
- *The very first maps of the County of Hainault*, by Jean-Louis Renteux
- *Jacques de Surhon, Cartographer of the 16th century - The man and his topographic work,* by Jean-Louis Renteux and Eric Leenders

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BREPOLS PUBLISHERS

La Géographie de Ptolémée en Occident (IVe-XVIe siècle)
Patrick Gautier Dalché

443 p., 30 colour ills., 210 x 270 mm
ISBN 978-2-503-53164-9
Prix de lancement: € 80 valable jusqu'au 15 octobre 2009
Prix normal: € 90

L'ouvrage, qui remet en question un certain nombre de lieux communs de l'histoire culturelle, est fondé sur l'analyse de première main des sources textuelles et cartographiques de la tradition grecque et latine émanant de milieux intellectuels très divers.

(Prix hors taxe et frais de port.)

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BRUSSELS INTERNATIONAL MAP COLLECTORS' CIRCLE

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, between September and November.
- AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on a specific major topic every year in December.

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Annual membership: EUR 30.00,
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and notify the Membership Secretary indicating your name and address.

BIMCC Newsletter

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

- 15 Dec. for the January edition.
- 15 April for the May edition.
- 15 August for the Sept. edition.

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

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