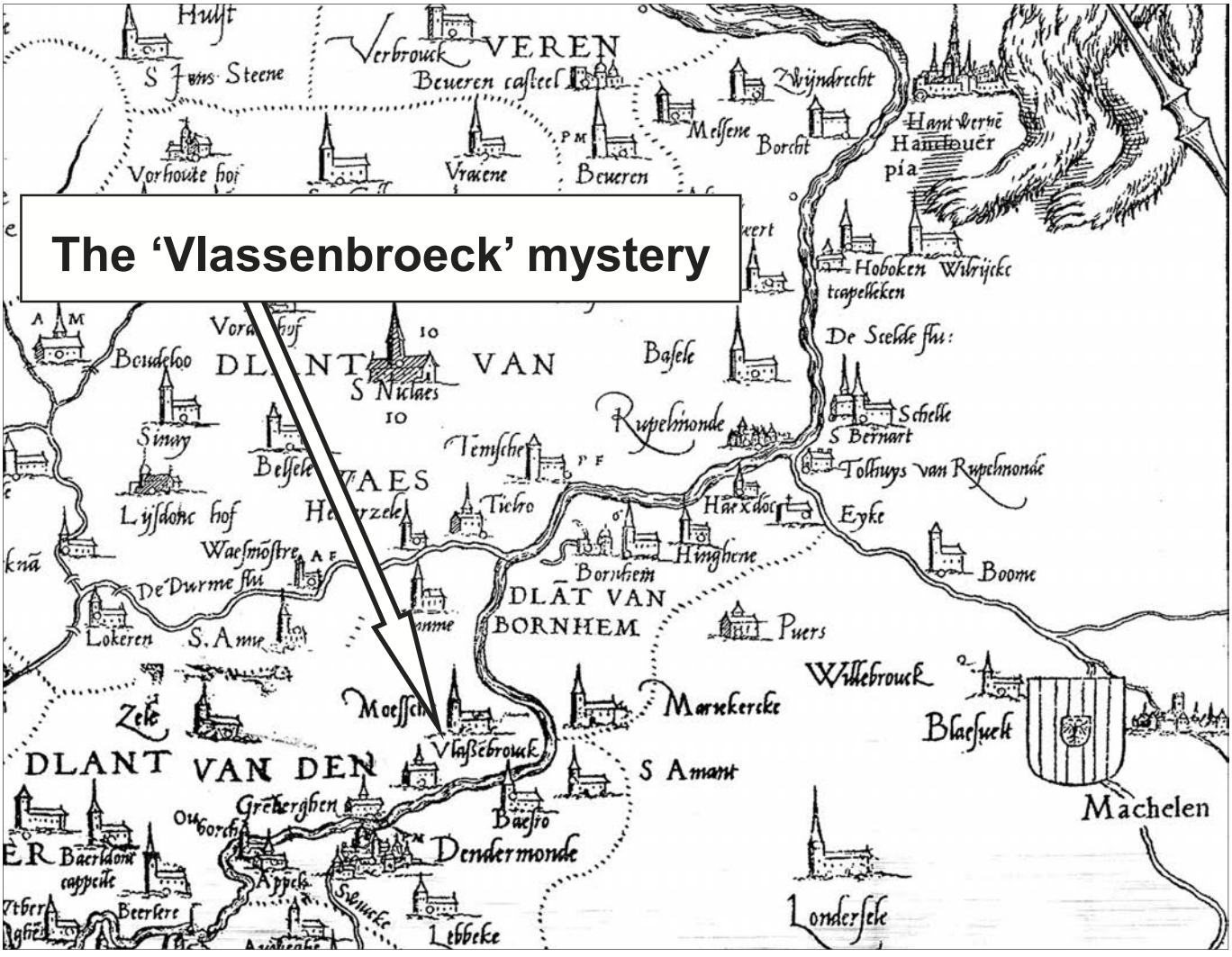
BRUSSELS INTERNATIONAL MAP COLLECTORS' CIRCLE (BIMCC)

BIMCC Newsletter No 32 September 2008

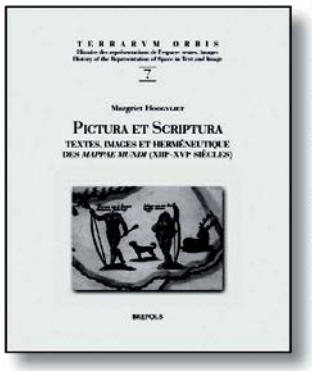
Web site: www.bimcc.org



Also in this issue:

- About De Bouge's map of Europe
- Reports on the Sint-Niklaas and Oudenaarde exhibitions
- Numerous book reviews
- … and the usual departments

ISSN 1379-3306



Margriet Hoogvliet

Pictura et Scriptura

Textes, images et herméneutique des *mappae mundi* (XIII^e – XVI^e siècle)

391 p., 21 b/w ills., 12 colour ills., 210 x 270 mm,
2007, HB, ISBN 978-2-503-52065-0,
€ 80 (prix hors taxe et frais de port)
Collection: Terrarum orbis, vol. 7

Cet ouvrage a pour but de montrer la survivance des idées médiévales dans la cartographie du XVI^e siècle, sous plusieurs aspects originaux. L'étude procède non seulement à partir du genre médiéval des *mappae mundi,* mais encore des textes de géographie descriptive.

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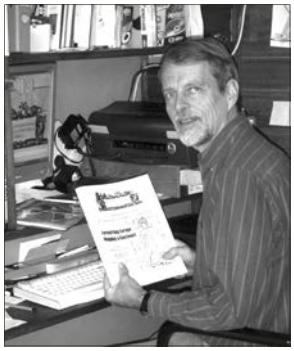
www.sanderusmaps.com
E-mail: sanderus@sanderusmaps.com

Dear Map Friends,

In this Newsletter we have a number of articles and shorter items on the history of cartography. Eric Leenders continues investigating the 1540 map of Flanders signed by Mercator, focusing on a rather intriguing detail… Lisette Danckaert then elaborates on one of the highlights of the Europalia exhibition of last year, the large map of Europe by De Bouge, with a detailed analysis of the changes between its two versions and their relation with major political changes at the end of the 18th century; this is accompanied by an extract shown, in colour again, as the 'Map of the Season'.

To be noted also, the next two items in the BIMCC programme, the excursion to the University Library in Leiden (which is postponed one week to the 24 October) and the Study session for which you will find the full programme; do register early, to be sure not to miss these events.

Cartographically yours,



Jean-Louis Renteux
Editor
editor@bimcc.org

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Cover: Map of Flanders by Gerard Mercator - Jacob van Deventer (1540), with the village of Vlassenbroeck on the left bank of the Scheldt river.

Genoa

Genoa is one of many Italian cities that are easily overlooked by tourists rushing to visit Rome or Florence. However, the legacy of its very rich history is well worth a stopover. In the middle of a sprawling harbour and industrial agglomeration, the old city of Genoa has a number of riches to offer, amongst which some interesting finds for the map lover.



Coronelli globe in the Maritime Museum

Maritime Museum

The *Porto Antico* has been rehabilitated in1992, for the 500th anniversary of America's discovery by Columbus, honoured by Genoa as its most illustrious son. On the occasion, an old arsenal has been transformed into a modern and most interesting Maritime Museum. There, one can see a full-size galley, experience force 10 winds without getting wet, or steer a transatlantic ship away from icebergs… The history of Genoa is abundantly illustrated with ancient maps and painted city views; they tell how, in the 15th century, it developed its harbour and its fleet of galleys, and became one of the leading naval powers of the world.

One room, dedicated to Geographers and Cartographers, displays nine printed atlases ranging from the first Flemish original models (Ortelius' *Theatrum* in its first edition of 1570 and Mercator's *Atlas* in a 1628 edition) to French atlases of the 18th century (Jaillot 1695, Nolin 1703, Delisle 1730); the showcase in which each album is displayed is accompanied by a computer screen on which one can leaf through the maps of the atlas which are not physically visible.

In the middle of the room stand two globes, terrestrial and celestial, made by Vincenzo Maria Coronelli in 1688 and 1693 respectively; they are a reduced version (∅ 108 cm) of the monumental globes (∅ 385 cm) that he had made in 1683 for king Louis XIV and which are now exhibited in the *Bibliothèque nationale de France* in Paris.

Frescoes of the Palazzo Antonio Doria

This palace, now hosting the *prefettura*, is located near the end of Via Garibaldi where an incredible series of *palazzi* were built in the 17th-18th centuries by merchant families competing with one another to display their wealth. Antonio Doria, an uncle of admiral Andrea Doria, built this palace in 1548 and had it richly decorated with frescoes. Those which ornate the upper gallery of the inner courtyard were made by Lazarro Calvi and represent city maps. A number were unfortunately sacrificed in past centuries, to open large doors onto the gallery; only fragments of Constantinople, Palermo, Bologna… are visible. But the remaining maps are in excellent condition and show lively perspective views of major cities of the 16th century: Genoa itself, its rival Venice, Rome, Milan, Florence, Jerusalem and… Antwerp.



'Anversa' fresco

Frescoes of the San Lorenzo cloister

The upper gallery of the cloister adjoining the San Lorenzo cathedral was also decorated with cartographical frescoes. But these have not been so well preserved and, on the way to visit the Diocesan museum, one can only see fragments depicting the eastern Mediterranean, with galleys landing at the genoan colonies in Cyprus and Judea.

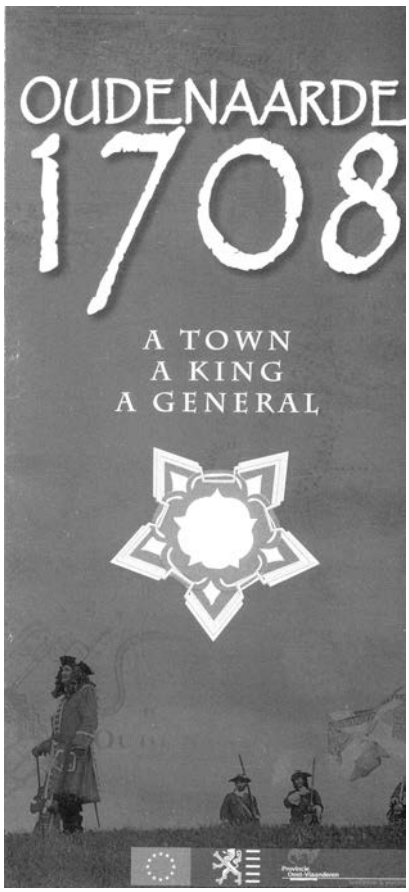
Jean-Louis Renteux
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Oudenaarde 1708: a town, a king, a general

Town hall, Markt, B-9700 Oudenaarde, until 26 October 2008.
Info: Tourist Office tel: + 32 (0)55 31 72 51; e-mail: toerism@oudenaarde.be; www.oudenaarde1708.be

Although it is not specifically cartographic, this exhibition has everything to fully please any map lover. Indeed, this is the perfect example of how an historic exhibition should take advantage of the wealth of information provided by maps, atlases and plans.

The city of Oudenaarde, located on the Scheldt river between Tournai and Gent, is celebrating the anniversary of the battle which took place in its vicinity on 11 July 1708; in this battle, the French armies of Louis XIV were defeated by a coalition of English, German, Austrian and Dutch forces led by the Duke of Marlborough and the Prince Eugene of Savoy.



The exhibition is held in tastefully restored rooms of the beautiful 16th century town hall. The exhibits obviously include a number of maps of the battle, printed (e.g. Fricx) or manuscript.

In addition, a rather unique electronic screen shows the successive phases of the battle interactively; on a background map of the battlefield area (derived from Ferraris), the opposite forces move to take their positions to face one another, gunfire is exchanged and the shape of the battalions varies as a result of the combats, up to the point where the blue forces are surrounded by the red ones and kind of dissolve!

The exhibition is completed by a series of ancient views and plans of Oudenaarde (many of them, manuscript), with, as a showpiece of the exhibition, the plan-relief of Oudenaarde; contrary to the other plan-reliefs discussed in previous Newsletters (Nos 19 and 20), this scale-model was not made for Louis XIV during the Vauban period (although the Sun king took the city three times, in 1658 , 1667 and 1684); this one was made generations later, in 1747, for Louis XV, by the French military engineer Nicolas de Nézot, based on his field survey. This plan-relief, which is the property of the French *Musée des Plans-reliefs* in Paris and is usuallly displayed in Lille, is fully exploited in the Oudenaarde exhibition; not only is it well presented, but it is accompanied by a telescope to view details across the large model and by an interactive video projection comparing details of the model with to-day's views of the same areas.

Worth a mention is the special effort made to render the exhibition accessible to an international public by providing explanations in English and French, as well as Dutch. A leaflet catalogue was published for the occasion, in Dutch, French and English, as well as a glossy publication, only in Dutch.

Jean-Louis Renteux
editor@bimcc.org



The plan-relief of Oudenaarde, 1747

Die Manuskriptatlanten Christian Sgrootens
[The manuscript atlases by Christian Sgrooten]
By Peter H.Meurer

Publisher: Canaletto/Repro Holland; P.O.Box 107-2004 AC – Alphen aan de Rijn; Netherlands. Two parts: black cloth with gold imprint. Text volume (40 x 29cm) 304p. with over 400 illustrations – Portfolio (50 x 36cm) with 75 double sheet maps (50 x 72cm each) colour.
ISBN 978-90-6469-821-7 / EUR 250.00

The overall work is one of the most splendid luxurious publications on cartography that I've seen. It is published in the same spirit and with the same quality as the *Monumenta Cartographica Neerlandica* by Prof. Gunter Schilder.

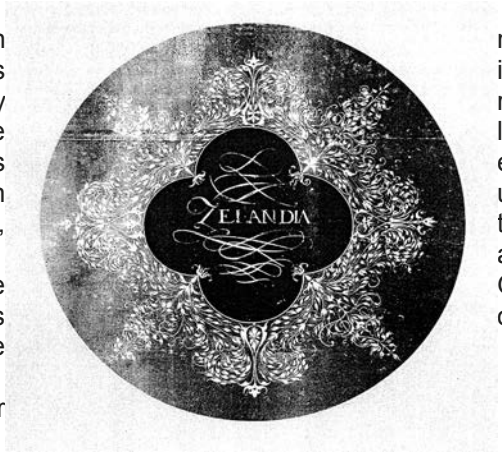
The first part is as well an introduction as a summary of the second part. The second one contains the reproduction of the maps.

Christian Sgrooten (1525-1603) is a cartographer who worked during the Renaissance with giants as Mercator, van Deventer, Ortelius. His preliminary work consisted of wallmaps, maps of the Netherlands and the Holy Land. But his main realisations were the manuscript *Atlas Bruxellensis* — 37 maps (1573) — and *Atlas Madritensis* — 38 maps (1593). Both were made to order for King Philip II and were, as was usual at the time, kept secret and drawn only for the eyes of the King. This is the reason why this cartographer did not enjoy much public recognition.





Holy Roman Empire



Part one describes each map of both atlases with black and white pictures and cites the title of the map, the region, the size and the scale. The author tells us the history and evolution of cartography in the Netherlands during the second half of the 16th century. He pictures the period in which C. Sgrooten realised his aesthetical maps which were made on demand by Alba for strategic planning. He shared his work with and was surrounded by G. Frisius, J. van Deventer, G. Mercator, C. Plantijn, G. de Jode, Ortelius, a.o.

Peter Meurer mentions the Flanders school; it sounds flattering, but this term should be understood in a broader sense.

Through P. Meurer we get a fair picture of C. Sgrooten's life and work during the reign of Philip II. In 1573 he delivered his first main work to the King. It is the manuscript *Atlas Bruxellensis*. The Atlas contains 37 superbly coloured maps which are a jewel of handicraft. Sgrooten describes the provinces of the Netherlands, of the lands bordering on the Netherlands, and other parts of the Holy Roman Empire. It is not clear how much of these maps were his personal work or how much he borrowed from other cartographers. One thing is sure, J. van Deventer was his main inspiration for the part of the Netherlands.

C. Sgrooten delivered in 1593 his second magnificent work, namely the *Atlas Madritensis*, as beautifully coloured and designed as his first atlas. This atlas contains world and biblical maps, general maps of north and east Europe, of the Holy Roman Empire, of the Low Countries and the Dutch provinces with also France and the British Isles. This atlas is also a mix of personal survey and compilation of existing material.

The *Atlas Bruxellensis* covers as well the same as different European regions as the *Atlas Madritensis*, but the maps are not a copy of each other.

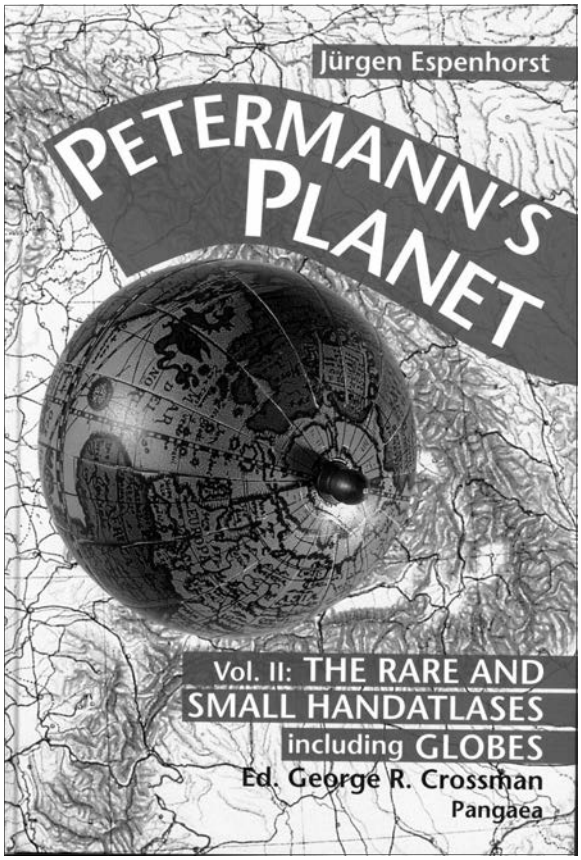
The facsimile portfolio is a fine collection of 37 maps, kept at the Royal Library in Brussels and 38 maps, kept in the National Library in Madrid. The colours of the reproduced maps are superb. To look at them is a pleasure for the eyes. This publication gives us a unique chance to study the topographical quality of the maps and to judge the influence of G. Mercator, J. van Deventer and others on Sgrooten's work.

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Petermann's Planet – A Guide to German Handatlases and their Siblings throughout the World, 1800-1950. Vol. II: The rare and small Handatlases including Globes By Jürgen Espenhorst, edited and translated into English by George R. Crossman

Schwerte (Germany): Pangaea Verlag, 2008. Pp. i-xvi, 685-1371, with 78 b/w and 495 colour ill., 24 x 17 cm, carton binding.
ISBN 978-3-930401-36-9
To order: Pangaea Verlag, Villigster Strasse 32, D-58239 Schwerte, Germany, www.pangaea-verlag.de , pangaea@cityweb.de, tel. +49-(0)2304-77284, EUR 99.50 – in the US: Pangaea Verlag USA , 4320 Forest Hill Drive, #438, Fairfax, VA 22030-5651, USA, gcrossman1@verizon.net

In BIMCC Newsletter 18, January 2004, we introduced Vol. I of this work, devoted to *The Great Handatlases* (Pangaea Verlag, 2003). The project continues here with Volume II, basically covering atlases produced in German-speaking countries between 1800 and 1950 that are less well known and for which there is less information in the relevant literature. In principle only those that have the denomination 'Handatlas' in their title are included in this survey. This work is not, stricto sensu, a cartobibliography as it does not provide a list of maps per atlas volume. It should rather be considered as a guide that expands on the listings contained in Espenhorst's first bibliography, *Andree, Stieler, Meyer & Co* (1994, in German). Thus, the emphasis is on the history of the important people and institutions that participated in the production of the atlases.



In Vol. I which covered Part A of the initial bibliography, we learnt about six of the largest families of atlases, namely those published by

- The Geographisches Institut Weimar (atlases by Gaspari, Weiland and Kiepert)
- Justus Perthes in Gotha (atlases by Stieler, Berghaus, Spruner)
- Bibliographisches Institut in Hildburghausen and Leipzig (atlases by Meyer)
- C. Flemming in Glogau (Sohr-Berghaus, atlases by Handtke and Berghaus)
- Velhagen & Klasing in Bielefeld and Leipzig (atlases by Andree)
- Wagner & Debes, Leipzig, and Oestergaard in Berlin (atlases by Debes).

The present Volume II covers another 66 families most of which were enumerated in Parts B (17), C (10) and D (21) of the original work, but 18 atlas families have been added as a result of recent research by the author. The criterion for the grouping into families is the number of maps in each atlas: whilst Part A dealt with folio atlases of more than 60 maps, Part B contains atlases with at least 44 maps, Part C contains those that have between 30 and 44 maps, and Part D covers atlases containing fewer than 30 maps. This seems an unusual specification at first sight, but in the Introduction the author argues his case against such possible alternatives as listing the atlases by place of publication, or in chronological order. One assumes that an alphabetical array by author(s) or publisher(s) has not been envisaged on account of the number of different associates involved in each of the publications.

The presentation of the various atlas families, as well as that of the atlas production within these, is essentially chronological. Some families span a considerable number of years as the author has managed to trace the lineage of successors across the entire European publishing scene. The Kiepert / D. Reimer family, for example, is on record for 84 years, from 1855 till 1939, and even to 1962 when one considers globe production. Von Sydow /J . Perthes are present from 1842 to 1915, a period of 73 years. In contrast, some families are rather short-

lived, as for example Friedrich Matthies (Heilbronn, 1829-1830).

One of the most unexpected features of the production of these atlases is the fact that they were also produced in many foreign language versions for export. In addition, a number of atlases originally published in Germany, Austria and Switzerland were re-edited in national versions by local publishers in practically all other European countries, the Americas (North and South), and even Australia.

Considering that the objective of this book is to address the lesser known handatlases, it is not surprising to come across many names linked to cartography that one has not encountered before. But here is an occasion to become familiar with what happened 'behind the scenes', since a great number of little known cartographers worked in the shadow, for the great publishers of their time.

Espenhorst again succeeds in presenting a most profuse and complex subject matter in a coherent and comprehensible way, enlivening the methodical enumerations with his characteristic personal style. This makes the book most enjoyable to read, even if a great deal of the detailed information can only really be appreciated by the specialist collector or researcher. Although there is no systematic listing of the atlas maps, many maps are analyzed and commented on in great detail. Another addition here seems as logical as it is edifying for the interested reader: many of the great publishing firms also produced globes, and while their listing is not exhaustive, the inclusion of a first overview could stimulate further research.

Indexes of names and of subjects, a succinct bibliography and an epilogue with credits complete this book.

A catalogue-guide of this kind cannot 'live' without illustrations. Espenhorst has selected some most compelling examples of maps and other images from these atlases, including cartographers' portraits, coats of arms, and globes. One quite fascinating aspect comes across here: the illustrations of atlas covers. We are now familiar with the growing interest in atlas title pages, frequently true works of art, and some typical ones in 19th century style are also represented here. But the sometimes ornate and frequently quite decorative covers of atlas bindings of this long period of a century and a half also convey a message, often a mission statement. They should be worth a study in their own right.

To conclude on a lighter note with the illustrations: just over one fourth of the map illustrations (60 out of 235) depict Spain or its part with the Balearic Islands. One may be tempted not to call this an entirely fortuitous coincidence.



Example of a foreign atlas edition: Hickmann's pocket atlas (Vienna, 1894) published in Saint-Petersburg in 1903

Permit me to add a brief word about the author here. Jürgen Espenhorst does not originally come from a cartographic background, being an economist, with a teaching engagement at Münster University. However, his early interests in geography and history linked, one may imagine, to a growing collection of atlases, brought him into contact with Lothar Zögner (then at the Deutsche Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin), with Francis Herbert (Curator of Maps at the Royal Geographical Society in London at that time), and subsequently with many important map curators in Europe and abroad who greatly facilitated progress in the chosen domain. In addition, in 2006 he created the "International Atlas-Days", now a yearly gathering in Germany of collectors of atlases of this period.

Espenhorst's diligent approach to research, his unbounded energy and enthusiasm, and an outgoing and communicative personality are the combined qualities that ensure the success of his outstanding work.

Wulf Bodenstein
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Monumenta Cartographica Neerlandica, Vol. VIII: Jodocus Hondius (1563 - 1612) and Petrus Kaerius (1571 - c.1646)

By Günter Schilder

Alphen aan den Rijn: Uitgeverij Canaletto/Repro Holland, 2007. 596 pp., 963 b/w illustrations, 40 x 28.5 cm. ISBN 978-90-6469-833-0.
Portfolio with 37 facsimile maps (4 in colour) printed on 93 sheets, 41 x 52 cm, cloth bound, EUR 275.00
To order: Uitgeverij Canaletto/Repro Holland, P.O.Box 107, 2400 AC Alphen aan den Rijn, The Netherlands, Tel +31-(0)172-44 46 67, e-mail info@canaletto.nl, www.canaletto.nl

Prof. Dr Günter Schilder needs no introduction, nor do his *Monumenta Cartographica Neerlandica*. The eminent map historian has been a Speaker at two BIMCC Conferences (2002, 2006), and he was the Conference Chairman at last year's milestone event, the *Formatting Europe – Mapping a Continent* conference. Quite a few BIMCC members have had the privilege of attending his winter courses on the History of Cartography at Utrecht University, now continuing under the leadership of Peter van der Krogt and Paul van den Brink. Copies of the *Monumenta* were on display at the BIMCC Study Session on reference books (2001) and subsequently at our Map Evenings.

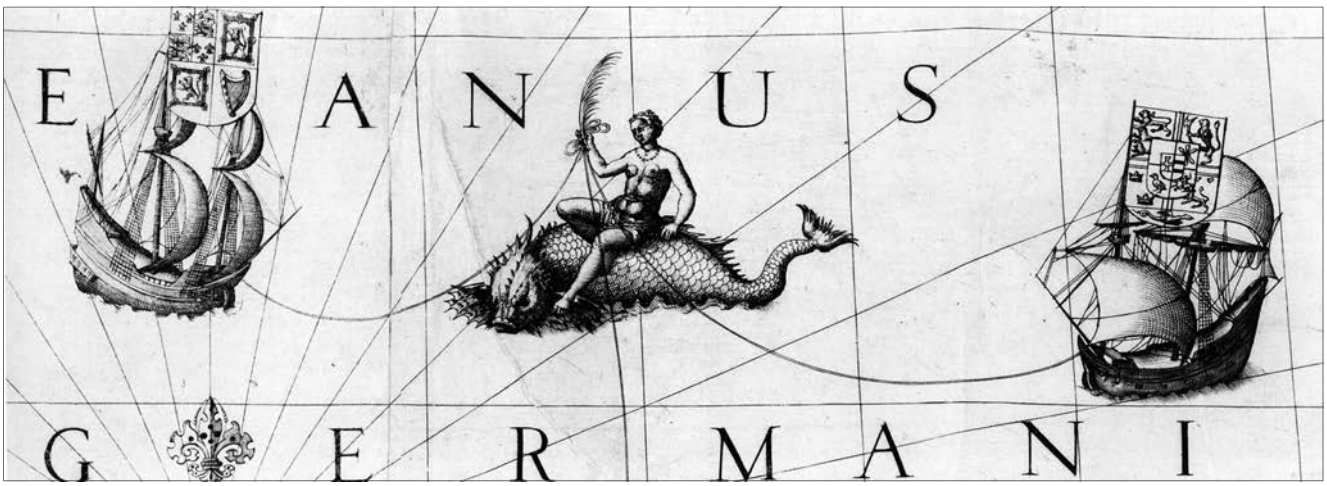
A brief review of the volumes published so far seems in order here, as a summary tribute to the life-time work of one of the most profiled carto-historians of our time. Note that all volumes are still available with the publishers.

- Vol. I, 1986, *Wall maps of the Seventeen Provinces*, Text vol. 171 pp, 111 figures; Map vol. 6 maps in 50 sheets; EUR 134.00
- Vol. II, 1987, *Wall maps by Ortelius and Joan Baptista Vrients*, Text vol. 171 pp, 146 figures; Map vol. 9 maps in 46 sheets; EUR 137.00
- Vol. III, 1990, *Two wall maps of the world by Willem Jansz. and Joan Blaeu*, Text vol. 351 pp, 352 figures; Map vol. 2 maps in 41 sheets; EUR 140.00
- Vol. IV, 1993, *Single-sheet maps by Willem Jansz. Blaeu*, Text vol. 364 pp, 350 figures; Map vol. 23 maps in 37 sheets; EUR 142.00
- Vol V, 1996, *Ten wall maps by Blaeu and Visscher*, Text vol. 384 pp, 350 figures; Map vol. 10 maps in 142 sheets; EUR 150.00
- Vol. VI, 2000, *Folio maps with borders*, Text vol. 452 pp, 800 figures; Map vol. 95 maps in 95 sheets; EUR 180.00
- Vol VII, 2003, *Cornelis Claesz.* Text vol. 560 pp, 850 figures; Map vol. 63 maps in 108 sheets; EUR 225.00
- Vol. VIII, 2007, *Jodocus Hondius – Petrus Kaerius*, Text vol. 596 pp, 963 figures; Map vol. 37 maps in 93 sheets; EUR 275.00

This is a most impressive sequence of publications which, together with the many other studies published, were duly honoured by the cartographic community when Schilder celebrated his 65th birthday in February 2007, on which occasion he was presented with a sumptuous *Liber Amicorum*[1], the Plancius medal, and was also made Knight of the Order of the Dutch Lion.

The present Volume of the *Monumenta* focuses on the maps which Jodocus Hondius (1563 - 1612) and his brother-in-law Petrus Kaerius (1571 - c.1646) engraved and published as separate loose-leaf issues.

Chapters I and II describe Hondius's youth in Flanders and the London scene that he knew during his emigration there from 1584 to 1593. It is in London that the young man of 24, already a skilled engraver of maps, married Colette, the daughter of another Flemish emigrant. Colette's brother Pieter van den Keere (Petrus Kaerius) was to become famous



Detail of Hondius's 1604 wall map of the British Isles in six sheets

1- Paula van Gestel-van het Schip, Peter van der Krogt (ed's.), *Mappae Antiquae, Liber Amicorum Günter Schilder,* 't Goy-Houten (NL): HES & De Graaf Publishers, 2007



Part of Pieter van den Keere's panoramic view of Paris in four sheets, 1617

himself later on. Hondius's London map production is detailed in Chapters III to VIII, attesting to his vast and varied output of single-sheet maps and other illustrations. Particularly remarkable among these are his contributions to the English edition of Waghenaer's *Spieghel der Zeevaerdt*, a number of maps with decorative borders, and some regional maps that were to be re-issued later by other European (continental) map publishers, among whom Jean Leclerc in Paris. The most important work stemming from his London period, however, is the engraving of terrestrial and celestial globe gores for the first globes to be produced in England (Ø 62 cm), marketed by Emery Molyneux in 1592.

A survey of Hondius's cartographic activities from the time he moved to Amsterdam in 1593 till his death in 1612 is given in Chapter IX. By this time, Amsterdam had become the centre of international trade in every kind of commodity, benefitting from the fall of Antwerp in 1585 and the closure of the Scheldt River. Besides, thousands of immigrants from the Southern Netherlands had brought in their artistic skills and business expertise, creating most favourable conditions for commercial expansion and a rapidly growing map and globe trade. As Jodocus Hondius's name is so closely connected with Gerard Mercator's *Atlas* of 1595 which he re-edited in 1606, it is natural that this overview should include a summary of his atlases[2], and also globes. But the main purpose of this Chapter is to introduce Hondius's outstanding wall maps of the Seventeen Provinces, of the world, of the four continents, of the British Isles, as well as a number of selected folio maps, all of which are described in great detail in Chapters X to XVII. These carto-bibliographical descriptions in turn are the essential commentaries to the 24 facsimile maps of this section.

To round off the presentation of Jodocus Hondius and his work, Appendix 1 reproduces his biography, or rather obituary, as written by his brother-in-law Petrus Montanus for the 1613 (Dutch) edition of the Mercator-Hondius Atlas and reproduced here from the English edition of 1636. To quote: *Let Egypt then boast her Ptolemee: Germanie of her Munster: France of her Belle-Forest: and England of her Camden: Spain of her Vasea: Italie of her Plinie: Holland is not inferiour unto them, and hath just cause to glorie in her great HONDIUS.*

Jodocus Hondius had certainly not worked in isolation, neither in London nor in Amsterdam. His renown as an engraving and map editing expert preceded him wherever he went. The most distinguished cartographers of his time sought his professional support, and, in a position of favour, Petrus Kaerius, to whom the second part of the *Monumenta* is devoted.

Van den Keere's early years in London and then in Amsterdam are covered in Chapters XVIII and XIX, marking the début of a remarkable career. Chapter XX details his contributions to a number of maritime atlases, such as that of the Mediterranean Sea, published by Willem Barentsz. in 1595, the new edition of Waghenaer's *Spieghel der Zeevaerdt* published by Cornelis Claesz. in 1596, but also to the

2 - See Peter van der Krogt, *Koeman's Atlantes Neerlandici – New Edition,* Vol. I, 't Goy-Houten (NL) : HES Publishers, 1997, for a complete carto-bibliography of atlases by Mercator-Hondius-Janssonius

pocket world atlas *Caert-Thresoor* issued by Langenes and Cornelis Claesz. as of 1598. These confirmed his position as a leading figure in cartography on the Amsterdam scene. An overview of Van den Keere's immense cartographic output after 1600 is given in Chapter XXI, including wall maps, folio-sized atlas maps, town views and globes, to name just these.

More dedicated analyses of Van den Keere's work come in the final six Chapters (XXII to XXVII) where we are presented with his Atlas *Germania Inferior* (1617), multi-sheet panoramic views of important towns (in Holland, Germany, France, plus Constantinople), wall maps of the Seventeen Provinces (1602, 1607), of *Germania* (1611), and of the world (1619). In this part devoted to Kaerius the correlation between text and map reproductions is less evident since only four of the facsimiles are described in the main body of the text, the other nine being given a carto-bibliographical description further on in Appendix 3 which provides a list of single-sheet maps engraved or published by Pieter van den Keere up to 1623.

As always, Schilder not only presents each map in its different states and issues, but consolidates his descriptions with references to precursors, variants, derivatives and a wide range of related historical documentation. Such encyclopedic coverage is unique, as is the incredibly wide range of illustrations pertaining to a given map subject. The map facsimiles are again of top quality, and the fact that they are in original full size makes them an ideal support for further cartographic research. A bibliography with 657 entries and a user-friendly index round off this remarkable publication.

Over the past 22 years that span the publication of the *Monumenta* so far we have become used to both the vigorous pace at which Schilder takes us through his carto-bibliography as well as his rigorous concept of presentation. However, on a number of occasions the author allows a personal touch to creep in, when surprise discoveries in the course of his unrelenting search for new maps did occur. On page 289 we can read "*This wall map* [Hondius's 1604 wall map of the British Isles – subject of Chapter XVI] *has only recently come to light. During a research trip to the then East German Democratic Republic (DDR) in 1984, searching for rare Dutch map material, the author made one of those discoveries of which map historians can only dream…*". More discoveries are bound to be documented in the coming two Volumes, Vol. IX (wall maps by Joan Blaeu) and Vol. X (Allard and Danckerts families). May Prof. Schilder's enthusiasm and personal engagement be preserved for many years to come, for the benefit of all those interested and involved in the History of Cartography.

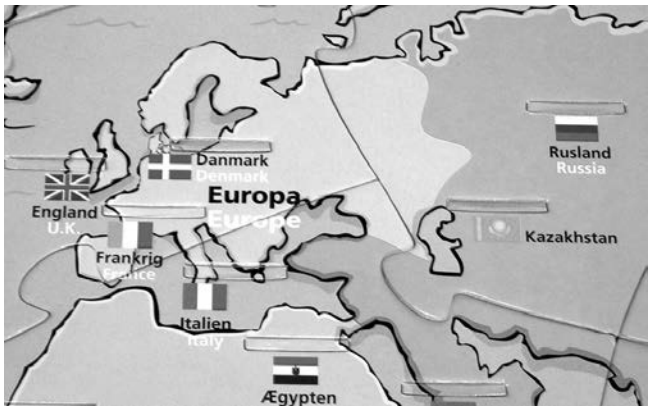
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Europe redesigned : a curious puzzle of the world

Oval 15-piece jigsaw puzzle of the world with 30 flags to be placed in appropriate slits, cardboard, 38 x 62 cm, DKK 20.00.
Tiger, Raadhuspladsen 59, DK-1550 Copenhagen V, Denmark, www.tiger.dk

This puzzle[1] of the world for children of three to ten years shows thirty countries and their flags on the six continents which are distinguished by different colours. The countries' names are given in Danish and English. Obviously, a selection had to be made here in order not to clutter the geography with the flags to be pinned, although the logic behind this selection largely remains obscure. And it may be argued that one would have to accept a few short-cuts and simplifications for children of that age, as for example the absence of national boundaries. So for the sake of simplicity Alaska is not marked, and the island of New Guinea has the colour of Australia although its western half belongs to Indonesia whilst the eastern part, previously under Australian administration, is independent since 1975.

But it is the representation of Europe that holds a few surprises. Only four countries are marked here: Denmark (of course), the UK (the Union Jack sitting right across Ireland), France, and Italy. Although there would have been space for a few more flags, no other European nation is identified, Russia is placed in Asia as if it did not also belong to Europe, and the rather important EU member state Germany simply does not exist.



The other surprise, especially considering that this puzzle is – as far as can be ascertained – a Danish product, comes when you realise that Iceland, a Danish dependency for centuries and independent since 1944, is coloured as if it were part of North America. I also noticed that the flag of Madagascar is lacking its white field, and I would spell the Philippines with three and not two 'P's.

It's difficult to believe that this is the kind of global image of the world, and of our Europe, that anyone would want our children to grow up with.

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1 - I am obliged to Dr E. Bodenstein, Padborg, Denmark, for having provided this puzzle

The 'Vlassenbroeck' mystery

Also a plagiarism tracer on the maps of Flanders *

The wrong location of the village Vlassenbroeck on the river Scheldt, on the 1540 Flanders map by Gerard Mercator - Jacob van Deventer, offers us an opportunity to trace the influence of G. Mercator on many Flanders' maps by other cartographers. The map of Brabant (n° 11) in the *Atlas Bruxellensis* by Christiaan Sgrooten is such an example.

Those who are familiar with the unique copy of the Flanders map, exhibited at the Plantin-Moretus Museum, are most likely aware of an inexplicable topographical mistake. The village of Vlassenbroeck, located just north of Dendermonde, figures on the left bank and not on the right one, as it should. This mistake is even more striking as Mercator himself originates from Rupelmonde, which is hardly 30 km. farther (see illustration on the front cover). Vlassenbroeck is a very small village located downstream, just north of Dendermonde. Over the years this village developed into a colourful and tourist walking area along the Scheldt.

The village was always, and still is, definitely located on the right bank. Foundations under the church date from the 7th century. A. Sanderus notes in the *Flandria Illustrata* the existence of a 'Capella de Vlassebroeck' in 1215, which later on appears to be the Sint-Gertrudis church. The work of Jacobus Maesterius in 1646 also confirms this date.

One could suggest that change of banks is technically possible and also sometimes occurs. Within this context there is an example of a place called 'Weert', located further north, which used to lie on the left bank, however today is to be found on the right bank. A possible geographical explanation is given in the illustration of Fig. 1. River meanders can open or close with major tides. In that case the village obviously becomes situated on the other side of the river. This does not appear to be the case for Vlassenbroeck. The reason of the 'Vlassenbroeck mistake' on the Mercator map is not due to a geographical feature, but to a human error.

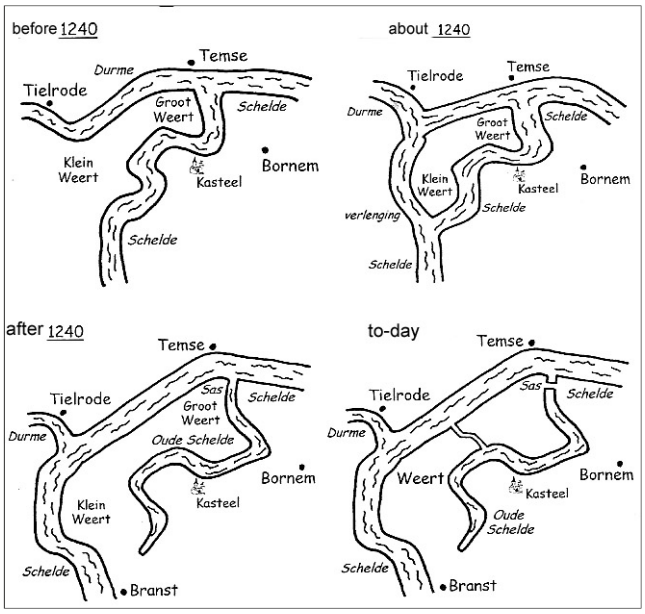


Fig 1. Evolution of the river Scheldt. Weert changes side.

Whilst checking other old maps of Flanders, one notices that the three classical Mercator maps all contain the same mistake: the oval *Flandria* map, the *Flandriae Comitatus Descriptio* in Ortelius' Atlas and the *Flandriae Comitatus* in the Mercator Hondius Atlas. Many Italians like Tramezini, Zenoï, Forlani, Duchetti as well as other cartographers copied this mistake up until the 18th century. Examples are De Jode, N. and C.J. Visscher, J. Hondius, R. and F. Hogenberg, M. Quad, P. van der Keere, P. Verbiest a.o.

It is such a notorious mistake that one can use the location of Vlassenbroeck on old Flanders' maps as a plagiarism tracer. If an old Flanders map shows the location of the village on the left bank, one can conclude that the cartographer, directly or indirectly, got his inspiration from G. Mercator's Flanders map. Other cartographers like W. and J. Blaeu, Sanson, Seutter, Delisle located the village on the right bank. It's impossible to understand why these cartographers did this. Did they check the information on site? We shall never know. Step by step it becomes clearer that Vlassenbroeck's location on the left bank is the result of a human error. The question is how and by whom? Research leads us to the origin of the Flanders map (1540). Although this map has been attributed to G. Mercator (the map mentions '*faciebat'*), for a considerable time, one became more and more convinced that the topographical part was made by Jacob van Deventer. Flanders was just one of the several regional maps measured by Jacob van Deventer. Each of his six maps reproduced not only the regions, but also the surrounding districts. Why he did so, is not clear. History shows us that border districts often changed hands. An example of this is the regional map of Brabant of 1536 (Fig. 2) which shows the Scheldt up to 'Denremonde' (now Dendermonde) and 'Bornhem' (Bornem), both tributary of Brabant. But during the 11th century they came under the domination of the Count of Flanders. This was a border region where the question of control should be analysed on the spot. It certainly wasn't easy for Jacob van Deventer to attribute all the different villages and hamlets. Did the author want to play it safe? Is that the reason he drew the border regions or did he receive instructions to make regional

* This article is an amended version of the article published in Dutch in the *Annalen K.O.K.W.* 2007, part 110.

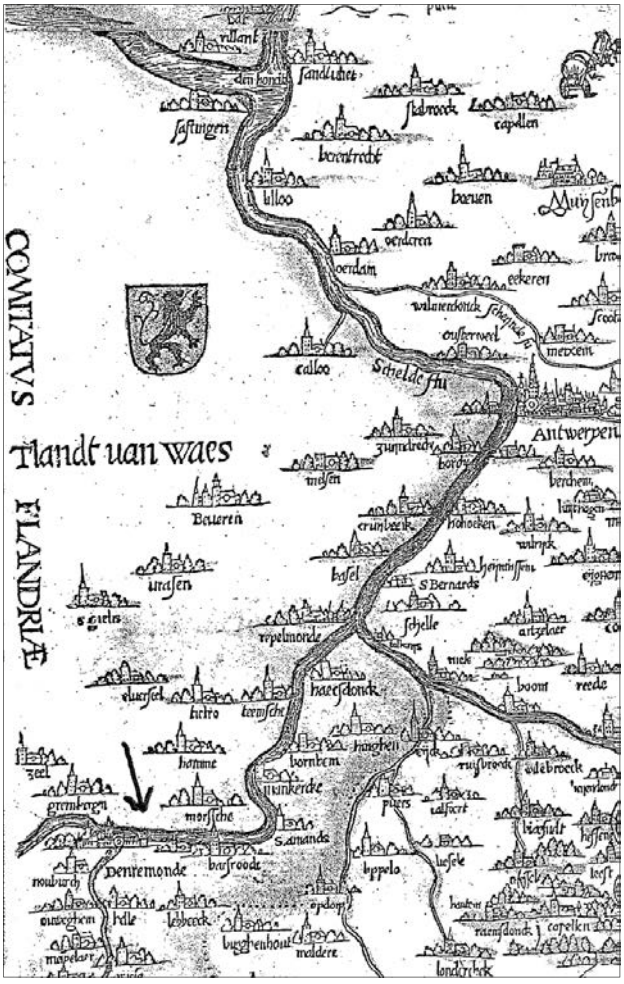


Fig. 2. Vlassenbroeck is absent from the regional map of Brabant by Jacob van Deventer (1536).



Fig. 3. Vlassenbroeck appears on Map 11 of Christiaan Sgrootens' *Atlas Bruxellensis*.

maps with the surrounding area included? Such was the case for Jacques de Surhon. He received, in 1548, an order from Emperor Charles V to draw Hainault '*by geographical standards ... and other places with the frontiers of the other countries and the neighbourhood'*. Jacques de Surhon started his cartographical work after J. van Deventer drew his last regional map in 1547. Is it possible that they both received similar orders? It seems logical. Whatever the reason, this way of working gives us the opportunity to look at the Scheldt-course on another regional map. The Brabant map by J. van Deventer shows the Scheldt until Dendermonde and also mentions the villages and cities between Rupelmonde and Dendermonde. Starting at Rupelmonde towards Dendermonde, he draws *Teemsche*, *Hamme*, *Morssche* (Moerzeke) on the left bank, whereas on the right bank we find *Haecsdonck, Hinghen, Bornhem, Minkercke* (Mariekerke), *S. Amands* and *Baesroode*. Vlassenbroeck is absent on both sides (Fig. 2). Why J. van Deventer doesn't mention Vlassenbroeck is not clear. Most probably it was just a small hamlet and therefore not important enough to be mentioned at all. None of the other maps of Brabant which were inspired by J. van Deventer show the village of Vlassenbroeck, e.g. Ortelius in '*Theatrum Orbis Terrarum'* (1590), C. de Jode and J. Janssonius. However, other cartographers do mention the village on their maps. J. Hondius situates the village on the left bank and the Visscher family on the right bank. Strangely enough W. Blaeu draws the village on the left bank on the *Brabantia Ducatus* map in the '*Theatrum Orbis Terrarum'* (1635).

On the contrary, the Blaeu map '*Secunda Pars Brabantiae'* by M.F. Langren situates the village on the right bank. Christian Sgrooten situates the hamlet Vlassenbroeck on the left bank both on his Brabant map (*Atlas Bruxellensis,* 1573; map 11, Fig 3.) and on his map '*Descriptio ostii Rheni, Mosae et Scaldis Fluminum'* (*Atlas Madritensis,* 1595, map 13*)*. The first map is inspired by J. van Deventer. Do we notice the influence of G. Mercator on the second one? In general we can conclude that the Brabant maps, up until 1650, were influenced by J. van Deventer as well as by G. Mercator.

Vlassenbroeck is part of a vast wooded area. The original 'Vlassenhout' wood was cleared and the landscape changed to 'broeck', i.e. a swamp with artificial water flow. From that moment on the village was named Vlassenbroeck and was linked to Baesrode. A map of the *Institut Cartographique Militaire - Bruxelles* surveyed in 1864 - scale 1:20 000 - shows the presence of a village centre with some ten houses and a few houses further away (Fig. 4). Also

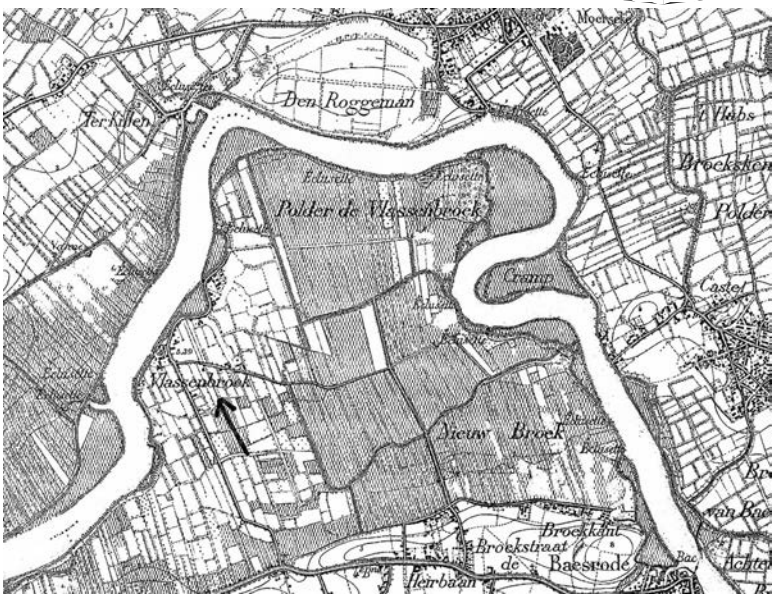


Fig. 4. Location of Vlassenbroeck on the topografic map (ICM, 1864).

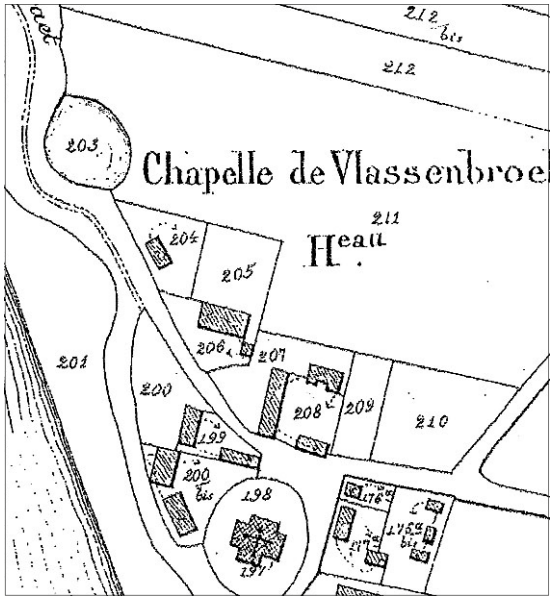


Fig. 5. Vlassenbroeck on the map of the municipality Baesrode. P.C.Popp,1860

the 'Popp' map, scale 1:5 000, 'Commune de Baesrode' from around 1860 (Fig. 5) shows that Vlassenbroeck was only a hamlet with a church and less then 20 houses. At the time in which J. van Deventer lived, Vlassenbroeck was, indeed, a very small hamlet. I dare raise the hypothesis that the village wasn't mentioned at all on the original topographical Flanders map by J. van Deventer which was put at Mercator's disposal in order to draw the Flanders map (1540). One can suppose that G. Mercator, who was familiar with the region, as he originated from Rupelmonde, should have noticed the absence of the village on the map. We also know that Mercator found his inspiration for the decorative aspect on the Flanders map by P. van der Beke (1538), both Flanders' maps were sold by the same publisher 'de Keyser' from Gent. We refer to the presence of four bears, one in each corner, who hold a 'banner' representing the Flemish baronies, Boelare, Heyne, Cisoing and Pamele. Both maps show the shields of Charles V, the symbols of the 'Golden Fleece', of Burgundy and Flanders. Both display some provincial shields. P. van der Beke draws 89 shields of cities and baronies. G. Mercator completes them with the names of the counts and countesses of Flanders. Both show abbeys with an indication of a male or female community, and draw the waterways; roads, however, are missing. The feature which interests us most is the fact that on the map of P. van der Beke the south is on top and Vlassenbroeck is located above the Scheldt (Fig. 6). Therefore you could wrongly situate the village on the left bank. Of course, nothing is less true. One should turn the map 180° with the north side above. Only then is Vlassenbroeck to been seen on the correct side, namely the right bank.

How is such a mistake possible, especially knowing that Mercator knew this region? Did he himself make this mistake or did he delegate the



Fig. 6. Map of Flanders by P. van der Beke (1538). Arrow shows the location of Vlassenbroeck, on the right bank of the Scheldt.

engraving work to an absentminded helper? The Flanders map bears the signature *Gerardus Mercator Rupelmundanus faciebat,* however on the other two Flanders maps - with the same mistake - he mentions *ad autographum* or *describebat.* The maps are signed 'per' as of 1613. It is difficult to draw a definite conclusion on who engraved the map, but it gives food for thought.

Conclusion

It is a fact that the wrong location of Vlassenbroeck on Flanders maps can be used as a tracer to determinate the source of inspiration of the cartographers. One who placed the village of Vlassenbroeck on the left bank derived his inspiration directly or indirectly from G. Mercator. The explanation on the wrong location of the village is an hypothesis. G. Mercator received a topographical map of Flanders where Vlassenbroeck was missing. He completed the map – or asked someone else to complete it – and relied therefore on another, south oriented, Flanders map by Pieter van der Beke. The mistake remained unnoticed throughout the centuries.

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Wulf Bodenstein receives the IMCoS Helen Wallis Award 2008

It did require the assistance of current BIMCC President Eric Leenders to lure Wulf Bodenstein into attending the IMCoS Annual Dinner 2008 in London in early June. Foregoing his customary scheduled rehearsal for the Jazz session in the 'Spoorloos Station', Wulf found himself the subject of the Award Winner's presentation. After a personal, witty and initially cryptic speech by the chairman of the selection committee Tony Campbell, Wulf Bodenstein was proclaimed Winner of the 2008 Helen Wallis Award. The salver to go with this honour, inscribed with his name added to the illustrious list of previous winners, was handed over by IMCoS President Sarah Tyacke. The impromptu speech by Wulf thereafter made clear that he was a worthy winner indeed and a winner of international stature.

IMCoS, a London-based 'international society of people, who love early maps', named the Award after one of its Chairmen, Dr. Helen Wallis, who was a well-known academic in the field of historical cartography, famous for her many publications and wide-spread international contacts.

The Award was in the past presented to quite an impressive array of international personalities, who have – all in their own specific way – contributed towards increasing awareness of historical cartography and the need to conserve, study, publicize and promote historical charts and maps as reflection of a cultural, scientific and artistic heritage.

IMCoS unites academics, map dealers and collectors of early maps worldwide and publishes the renowned IMCoS Journal, whilst organising an



International Symposium each year, somewhere in the world. Award Winners comprise all nationalities from Spanish to British, American, Dutch, Austrian and German, in keeping with the aims, as stated in the Society's constitution.

The fact that Wulf Bodenstein was chosen as the 2008 Winner emphasises that BIMCC in Brussels, founded by him, some 10 years ago, has meanwhile achieved international recognition under his tenure as President.

Hans D. Kok,
BIMCC member,
IMCoS Chairman

About De Bouge's map of Europe



'*Tableau d'assemblage'* of De Bouge's first version (1798)

Visitors to the exhibition 'Formatting Europe - Mapping a Continent', held in the Royal Library of Belgium in the winter 2007-08, may remember the largest map on display, number 49 of the catalogue, *Carte de l'Europe dédiée à S.A.R. Mgr Charles-Louis Archiduc d'Autriche* by Jean-Baptiste De Bouge. Dated 1803, this map of over four square meters is actually the second state and, despite its respectable dimensions, a slightly curtailed version of the map first edited in 1798. Indeed, the copy, pasted on linen, consists of 45 of the original 50 sheets, assembled to show the whole of Europe, although the sheets were of course printed separately. The first state, the sheets of which are numbered from I to L, consists of five rows of ten columns, the last of which was suppressed in the second state. Why this happened is not very clear to us. The territory represented was perhaps not considered then as being truly European, being portions of Asiatic Russia, the Urals and the Caspian Sea. Nevertheless, the actual numbering of the sheets was kept, so that X, XX, XXX, XL and L are lacking. This is not due to a loss of sheets on the displayed map, because a second copy, also kept in the Map Room of the Royal Library, assembled differently in nine sheets, presents the same 45 items. Moreover, three of the most easterly sheets bear the latitudes which were newly engraved. This is borne out by a copy of the first state of 1798, bound as an atlas, where the scale of latitudes is on sheets XX, XXX and XL, and not on XIX, etc. as in the 1803 state. So the author De Bouge took pains to make this correction in order to keep the indications of latitude, otherwise lost by the suppression of the sheets of the last column.

What is on those five sheets in the 1798 state? Number X gives the changes which occurred in the geographical division of Europe since 1772, prominent amongst which are the three partitions of Poland and the fall of monarchy in France with subsequent

extensions of the Republic. The engraved text runs *Rémarques Sur les changemens survenus dans la division geographique de l'Europe depuis 1772...les noms des anciennes divisions sont distingués par ce genre d'écriture* POLOGNE*, LITHUANIE,* Duché*, PROVINCE etc*. The text runs further on sheet XX, which also shows some parts of Asiatic Russia.

The information on the geographical changes is completely re-engraved in the 1803 edition on sheet XLIX, becoming the *Tableau général des changemens survénus en Europe depuis 1772 jusqu'en 1803 (an XI)*. The three partitions of Poland in 1772, 1793 and 1795, the extension of the possessions of Austria and Russia, the French Republic first numbering 83 *départements*, 107 at the later date (extending into the Low Countries, Germany and Italy), the Batavian and the Helvetic Republics, the very short lived Roman Republic, consisting of the former Papal states are all listed. The bishops and archbishops in the German realm who lost their territories received as compensation an annual pension. This text being on sheet XLIX, it follows that the original one was deleted in the second state. This is rather a pity, as it gave the longitudes (from the island *Hierro = Ile de Fer*) and latitudes in degrees and minutes of the principal cities, according to the latest astronomical observations; the 393 cities are ranged alphabetically in three columns from *Abbeville* to *Yorck*.

Number XXX shows the Urals, XL, the Caspian sea, Chwalynskoe More in Russian, Bagri Degniz in Turkish, with three ships. These sheets are much less crowded with names and special features than the central ones, the depicted territory being less well known through lack of good maps. The mouth of the Wolga is marshland, but the names of rivers change between sheets XXXIX and XL, such as Rakri becoming Aras, Meknan R changing to Kur Fl, and the river Alax not flowing on at the same latitude. Two different rivers bear one and the same name, while the coastline of the gulf of Agrachanskoi Salin is interrupted.

Sheet L is the title cartouche which differs slightly from the second state, on which has been added *Grand-Maitre de l'Ordre Teutonique etc etc etc*, just after the lines *Commandant Général des Armées du St Empire et de celles Impériales et Royales*. More important, the title *Pensionné de sa M:I: et R:e 1797* has been modified to *S:M: [kept] Pruss. 1803*, the word Pruss ending in the eagle and being less well engraved. A note specifies that the cartouche must be placed in the upper left corner when all the sheets are assembled as one map, which explains that on the 1798 copy it also bears a confusing number I and has, perhaps wrongly, been placed at the beginning of the atlas. And that creates a difficulty, because the actual sheet number I is an *Aperçu du Plan et de la Distribution de l'Ouvrage*, a long explanatory text written by Joannes Berken, setting forth the divisions in provinces, circles, etc., and the new modifications. These changes have been engraved on the map itself, in the open spaces provided by the seas, where the new subdivisions are listed, while the old ones are drawn in the continent with dotted lines, sometimes



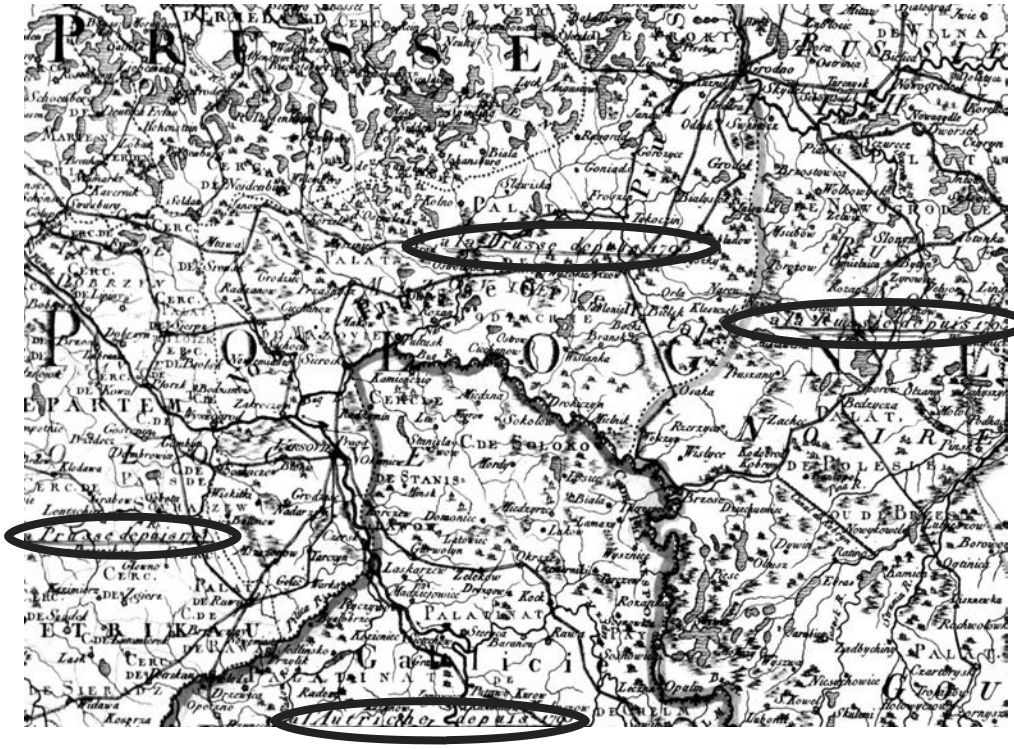
Cartouches of the first state (1797 - 98) and of the second state (1803)



Northern France, the Low Countries and western Germany



y on De Bouge's map of Europe, 1803 (part of sheet XXIV)



Indications of territorial changes in Central Europe

enhanced with colour. Portions of territory that were annexed by other countries usually bear *à la Russie depuis..., à l'Autriche depuis..., à la Prusse depuis…*, engraved in cursive script and underlined. On the same sheet, under Berken's list is a *Tableau d'Indication Pour l'Atlas de l'Europe en 50 Feuilles Redigé d'après les Ouvrages et Cartes des meilleurs auteurs Par J:B:De Bouge Ingenieur Géographe et gravé, en partie par lui à Vienne 1797 et 98*. A note states that this sheet has to be placed first when the maps are not assembled and it has simply been suppressed in the two mounted copies dated 1803, where the first sheet is the cartouche as required by De Bouge. As each sheet originally had its number in the margin, together with the names of the adjacent countries, assembling was not too difficult a task, bearing in mind the suppression of five sheets, so that the numbering jumps from IX to XI, XIX to XXI…, and the changed contents of number XLIX.

The most obvious modification is the addition of an inset on sheet XLV from 35°E to nearly 60°E. The coastline of Africa has been completed from Tripoli and the Barbarian Desert extending to the east, i.e. to Egypt, Lower and Upper with Nubia, three cataracts on the Nile, Abyssinia, the Red Sea, Arabia and Palestine (see following page). In the sea, near the Nile delta, an inscription refers to the *Combat du 1, 2 et 3 Aout 1798*, the naval battle of Aboukir won by Nelson against the French. Another terrestrial battle is shown west of the Nile by the traditional crossed swords.

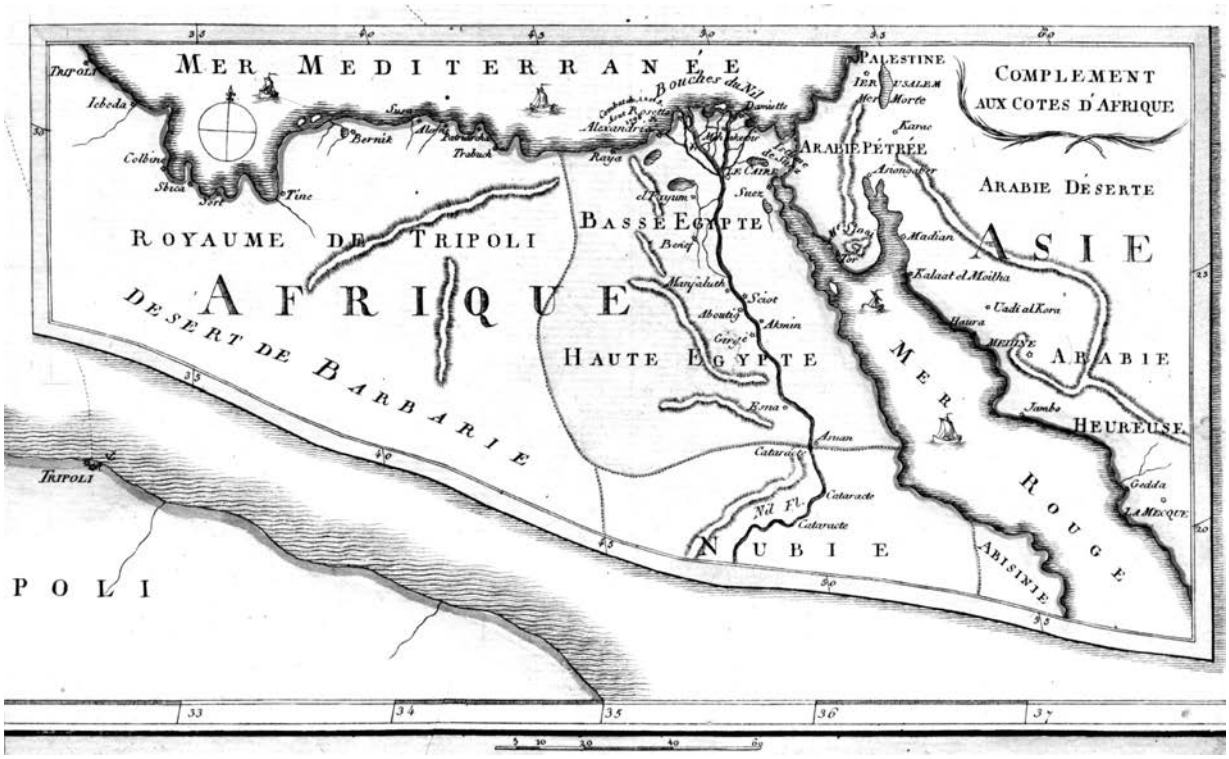
Probably to enhance the importance of Bonaparte's Egyptian expedition, the name *Rosette* is also engraved, a reminder of the finding in 1799 of the famous stone which would be deciphered later by Champollion.

On sheet XXIV in the North Sea, one battle of 1797 was indicated on the first state, but several naval encounters of the 17th century were added in 1803 near Blankenberge, Zeeland and Walcheren. Outside Europe, on sheet XLVIII, between *Syrie* and *Phénicie*, the town of Junia is pinpointed in 1798, but disappears in 1803, while in bolder letters *Tripoli* is engraved in northern Syria. A few inscriptions *à la Russie depuis…* can be seen on sheet XXVII (1793, north of Minsk), XXXVII (1791, between the Dniestr and Bug), and XXXVIII (1783, Crimea).

On 15 sheets, the dotted lines for ship routes have been more or less augmented. All the seas are concerned, but principally the Mediterranean.

As the scales are engraved outside the borderline, they are missing on most of the sheets of the two copies of 1803, whereas they are present in the atlas. Some relevant information was also lost through the assembling of the sheets, as it was engraved outside or in between the borderlines. Such losses are on number XIII (with Scotland): *Scripsit J:Berken* and *J.B.de B. Del et Sculp 1796*; on number XVIII: *Gravé au joseph Stadt en février 1798*; on number XXIII: *J.B. de B. Del et Sculp 1796;* on XXV: *Gravé a Baaden au Mois de 7bre 1797;* XXIX: *en fevrier 1798;* XXXVI: *Gravé en Mars 1798* and XXXVIII: *Gravé le 23 Mars 1798*.

Each map of the first state bears the scale in appropriate units of the represented area: *Milles d'Islande de 12 au Degré, Lieues communes de Norvége de 10 au Degré, Milles communs d'Allemagne de 15 au Degré, Werst de Russie de 104 1/2 au Degré, Agachs de Turquie de 22 2/9 au Degré,...*). The 20 scales of 50 mm each are grouped on sheet XLIII, in the sea near the Balearic Islands; they have thus been kept on the copies of 1803. Those two maps present no differences, except in colouring; for example, the limits of the *Comtat Venaissin*, a recent French possession, are coloured separately on one copy and the Duchy of Parma is being shown individually, while on the other copy Parma seems to be integrally part of northwestern Italy. On the map which was on display at the exhibition, the explanation of the colours used for the different realms did not show the colours themselves!



African complement to De Bouge's map of Europe, 1803 (part of sheet XLV)

In conclusion, it can be stated that the discrepancies between the two successive states are rather minimal, except for the suppression of five sheets, and the changing of texts which explain the territorial modifications, the cartouche and the added coast of Africa. Europe as a whole, the representation of which was the major reason for drawing the map, remains unchanged.

Lisette Danckaert

International Atlas Days 2008

1 - 4 May 2008, Gotha, Germany

Conference Summary

The 3rd International Atlas Days 2008 were held on 1-4 May 2008, at *Schloss Friedensstein* Gotha with funding from the *University and Research Library Erfurt/Gotha, the Urania Kultur- und Bildungsverein Gotha e.V.* and from the *Pangaea-Verlag Schwerte.* The location of Gotha is of particular importance for the history of German cartography. Since 2003 the *University and Research Library Erfurt/Gotha* administrates the archive of Justus Perthes -- the archive of his publishing house, the library, and the map-collection -- at *Schloss Friedensstein.*

About 50 participants from Germany, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Sweden and Russia attended the conference . The workshops at the beginning of the event dealt with the topic 'Atlases from Germany, their spreading and virtue in foreign countries'. A few reference volumes provided the possibility of practical analysis of the cartographical and publishing concepts of the atlases.

Jürgen Espenhorst presented the second Volume of *Petermann`s Planet: The Rare and Small Handatlases* including Globes. Kathrin Paasch reported about the difficulties of ascertainment and conservation of the map-collection as one of the important missions of the *University and Research Library Erfurt/Gotha.* The other lectures addressed the heritage of cartography in Gotha, the possibilities of searching for atlases on the World Wide Web and the presentation of a research project about Friedrich Justin Bertuch and his *Geographical Institute* in Weimar.

A guided walking tour of the town was crowned by the visit of the old Justus Perthes publishing house with the original map-collection in its historical environment and the old working rooms.

The 4th International Atlas Days with the principal theme lithography will take place in Darmstadt at the University and State Library from 24 to 26 April 2009.

Andreas Christoph
addi_chr@web.de

A citizen of Bruges witnesses the first circumnavigation by Magellan.

Marcel van Brussel, a citizen of Bruges, and one of our members has been fascinated during many years by stories of exploration and by discovery travels of which maps are a necessary tool. He writes about them and gives conferences. Particularly he likes to visit what he is writing about.
With Goethe one may say *Wer den Dichter will verstehen, muss in Dichters Lande gehen*.
He learned that a citizen of Bruges participated in and survived the first circumnavigation. On the occasion of his study of the discovery of the Straits of Magellan, he visited Patagonia (2006). He contacted the *Universidad de Magallanes* at Punta Arenas and spent 10 days on a remote island in the middle of that mysterious Strait: in the wake of his 16th century fellow citizen.
At this moment he prepares an article on the discovery of both the Magellan and Le Maire Straits - both of which, each in their own way contributed to circumnavigate the southern continent.
The following article is a résumé of his conferences and the article[1] he published in Dutch in *Brugs Ommeland'*– 2008/1.

After the discovery of America there remained a secret hope that it would be possible to circumnavigate this huge piece of land to the southwest. A westward passage would enable to reach the Pacific and the spice islands in the east. Ferdinand Magellan (1480 - 1521) set out to do just that. He even did more, backed by the King of Spain – later Charles V, he launched an expedition which circumnavigated the whole world.

His crew was composed of many nationalities. Some were born in Flanders belonging to the Spanish crown. The Spanish archives cite one of them, Roldan de Argote, as being born in Bruges in 1498. He is considered to be the first Flemish citizen to have circumnavigated the world. This navigation was an indirect result of the treaty of Tordesillas (1494) in which the new world was divided by Pope Alexander VI between Portugal and Spain. The purpose of the navigation was to find a Spanish westward passage to the spice islands. Magellan's fleet consisted of five ships, with about 264 sailors, of whom five were Flemish. The Italian Antonio Pigafetta wrote a journal which is the main source of information on this first circumnavigation.

The fleet set sail on 10 August 1519 from Sevilla and discovered the entrance of the Straits on 21 October 1520. The article describes the perils of this navigation marked by mutiny, treason, and loss of ships and crew. The waterway, a large bay opening to the west proved to be hazardous and a strong winded passage. During the night the crew saw fires on the south coast and therefore called the land *Tierra del Fuego*.

About halfway the Straits, the Flemish gunner Roldan took command of a sloop in order to explore the route ahead. The sloop navigated westwards, passing an island (Carlos III). In order to have a full view of the remaining Straits, he climbed a rounded , bell shaped hill, and noticed the continuity of the Straits; they were not enclosed in a blind alley. He also noticed the forceful tides, proving the presence of a sea at the end. This information was important in the decision to push on the exploration westward and to finally reach the Pacific Ocean. The hill he used became known as the *Campana de Roldan* (Roldan's bell) actually named *Cerro El Morrion.* Both names refer to the rounded top of the hill in question.

The navigation succeeded in rounding the world. Unfortunately Magellan was killed in the Philippines in 1521. In December 1521, with the Victoria under captain Elcano, Roldan succeeded to reach the Cape Verde islands where he was imprisoned with 12 other sailors. Charles V succeeded in freeing them, and three months later, Roldan was back in Sevilla. We find his name – already during his lifetime – on the famous world map of Diego Ribero from 1529, *Ca(m)pana Roldan*. The story behind that name had remained almost unnoticed so far.

He participated in a new expedition to the Moluccas in 1525, got wounded during a fight (1528) with the Portuguese, but survived. Afterwards no traces were found of that courageous citizen of Bruges who contributed to Magellan's round trip. He died, probably in the Pacific, around 1538.

The author describes the Straits of Magellan, the *Campana de Roldan* and the different names in use on American and Patagonian maps. Indeed, changing names during later voyages was not an unusual practice.

Eric Leenders
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1 - A full copy can be obtained from marcel.van.brussel@telenet.be

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Martino Martini, Novus Atlas sinensis – 1655

By Noël Golvers

Noël Golvers is a classicus, who teaches Latin at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven – K.U.L. (noel.golvers@arts.kuleuven.be). He is specialised in sinology and is attached to the Ferdinand Verbiest Institute. He is interested in the cultural and historical context of Chinese maps.

This article is a summary of a conference given this year at the library of the Sint-Lodewijks College in Bruges.

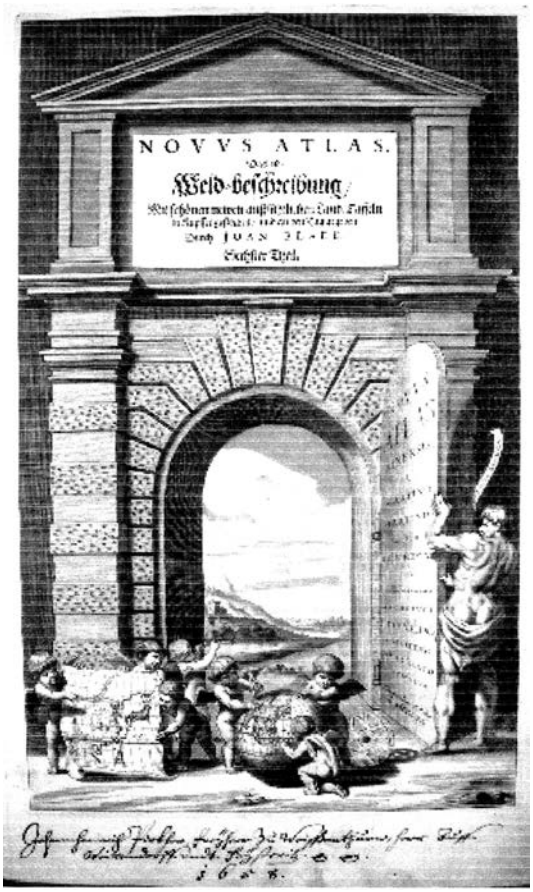
Based on old Chinese maps, the Jesuit Martino Martini prepared an atlas of new maps, accompanied by a Latin text about the Chinese society and landscape. This was used by Joan Blaeu to produce the *Atlas sinensis* as a separate entity of volume XI of his *Atlas Major*, 1653.

Martini was not the only one to communicate on Chinese maps. The Vatican Library owns a manuscript atlas by Boym, a Polish sinologist.

The Atlas, kept at the Sint. Lodewijkscollege, is a rare specimen of the German edition '*Novus Atlas Chinensis*', J. Blaeu, 1656.

This conference was not about Chinese maps but about Martini and the Latin contents of his *Novus Atlas Sinensis*. Noël Golvers traced the whereabouts of the man, his work, the atlas edition and the origin of the one held by the college.

Martini was born in Trento in 1614, studied at the *Collegio Romano* and became a Jesuit. At the age of 26 he travelled to China and arrived at the time of the Manchu conquest. He was the first to study original Chinese historical texts. In 1651 he returned to Europe, with Chinese maps. These were proposed for publication to Moretus, who was not interested. While staying in Brussels, he contacted J. Blaeu who decided to print his atlas. During that period he was also in contact with the VOC and returned to China in 1657 together with 12 young Jesuits, a group of which F. Verbiest was a member. Martini died of cholera at the age of 47 and was buried in Hangchou .



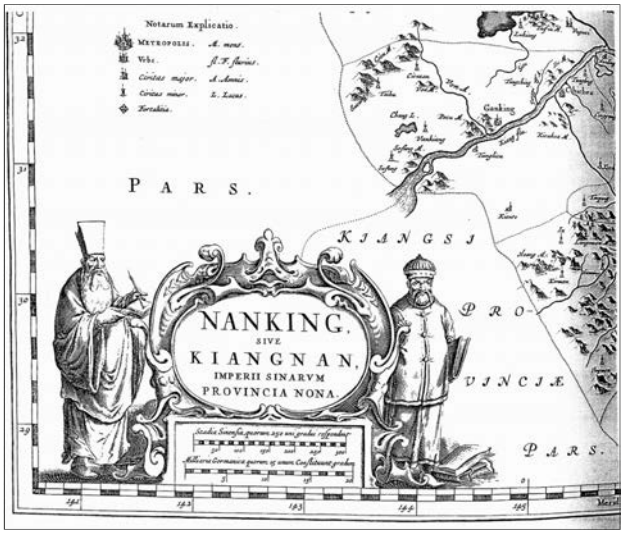


Chinese Atlas Lo Hung

Although there was some Chinese cartographic knowledge through Ortelius' atlas in 1570, the value of it was insufficient. Martini's work was *Novus* – it was not a map but a book with a text and several regional maps based on Chinese sources. For example, for the Kiangnan region there is one map for 14 pages of texts, two columns in folio. The title page is a typical European allegorical one, based on the *Murus Sinucus*. The Jesuit background of the author is reflected through his own words *the Atlas is made with the purpose to inform the Christian reader…*

The cartographer describes in his *Praefatio*, names, boundaries, territories, rivers, population a.o.; nevertheless N. Golvers insists on the missionary dimension of Martini's scientific work. The atlas contains one general and 15 regional maps about China and one about Japan. The latin text describing the country and a large number of subjects, counts 171 folio pages in two columns. At the end there is a catalogue of the longitude and latitude of many cities measured by Martini. The final part is a monograph by the orientalist J. Golius about the name Cathay and Martini's text *De Bello Tartarico*.

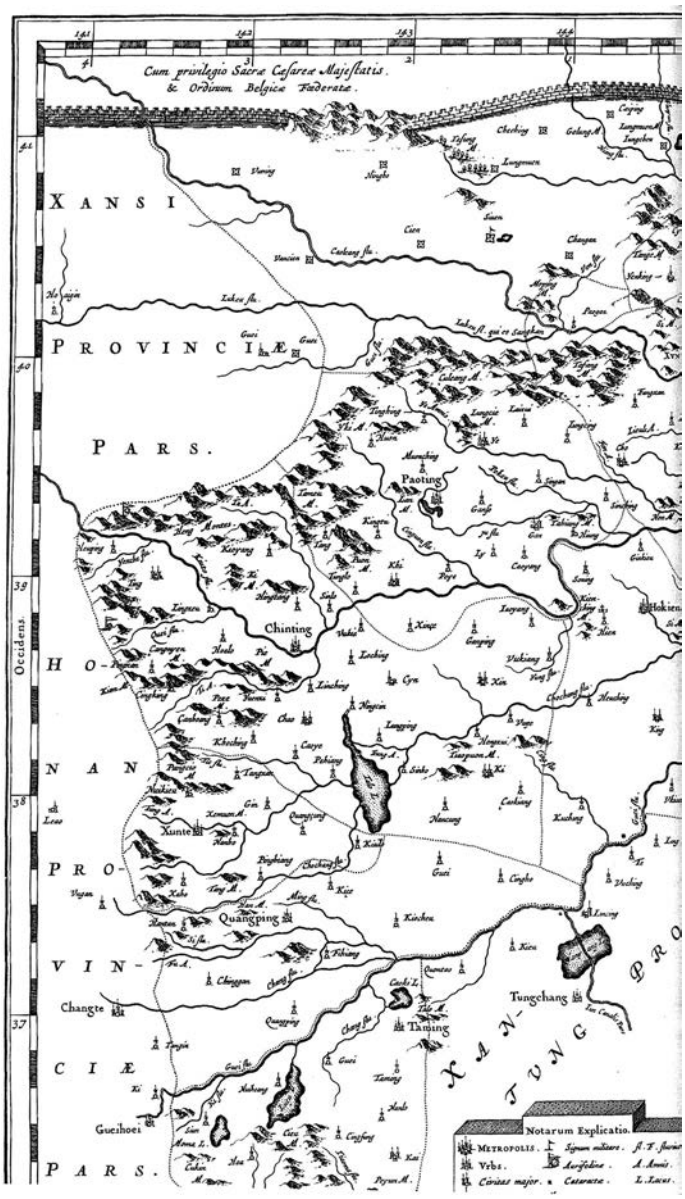
The main contribution in the knowledge of Chinese cartography is the fact that



Europeanised cartouche

Martini's work is based on original historical sources and maps. He added his personal observations to this. He visited seven out of the 15 provinces and noted not only the topographical aspects but also all human and economic facts. He describes the big cities, has a specific interest in the role of the church and uses all kind of administrative and statistic information he could obtain. He romanised 3 000 names of localities, 500 mountain names, rivers a.o. He used European styled cartouches with Chinese figures. Let's not forget, these maps were engraved and printed in Europe. The quality of the topographical context is based on his personal technical input. Chinese maps were based and related to distances between localities designed within a preconfigurated grid. Martini worked on the basis of his own measurements of the longitudes with the astronomical clock and of the latitudes with the Sint-Jacob staff. He placed the zero meridian through Peking. The measured coordinates of 1750 Chinese localities are noted in the catalogue. A recent control of his measurements proved a latitudinal deviation of 0.5° and a longitudinal one of 0.7°, indeed a remarkable result. The scales are noted as *stadia Sinesus* and *miliaria Germanica*. Martini mentions the work of Marco Polo, a man of whom he speaks with respect. Due to his travels in Europe, he refers regularly to European facts, which he compares with Chinese ones. He even mentions the Low Countries with their polder lands and the coal activities in Liège. The Latin Atlas was also edited in Dutch, French, Spanish and German. This brings us back to the conference at the Sint-Lodewijks College. We were shown the rare German edition *Novus Atlas, dass ist Welt-Beschreibung..., durch J. Blaeu*, Amsterdam 1656 with 17 coloured maps. This Atlas was dedicated to the Duke of Brunswick and Lüneburg, collector and founder of the famous *Bibliotheca Augusta* in Wolfenbüttel and bought from R.V. Tooley. Noël Golvers considers the atlas as a typical cultural product of the eastbound expansion during the 17th century, where eastern realities received a western interpretation.

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Xansi province

André Vanden Eynde

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Maps, prints, views
of all parts of the world

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Exhibition at the Mercator Museum in Sint-Niklaas: The 17 Provinces on old maps

1 July – 14 September 2008

The exhibition was opened officially on Friday 27 June 2008, in the presence of a large attendance from Belgium and the Netherlands and the friends of the Mercator Museum.

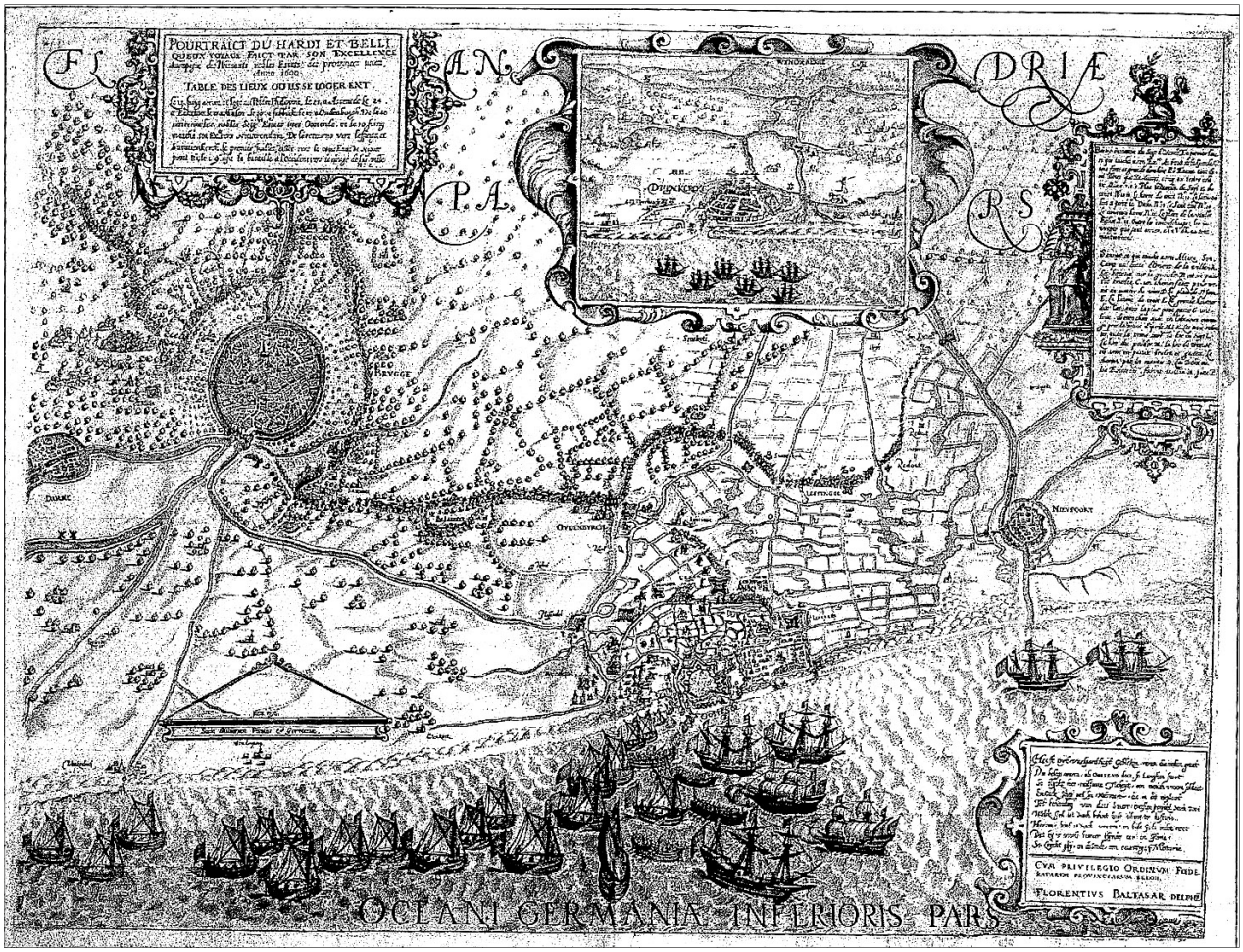
The opening speech was held by N. Maes – member of the city council – and E. Leenders guided us through the historical story of *Belgica florens, Belgica distructa*.

At first he thanked the municipality, the directorate and the technical staff of the Museum as well as Mr. Van der Gucht, conservator of the library, for giving the BIMCC the opportunity to work out a project without interfering, but with their moral and technical support.

The first part of the exhibition was on the constructive part, when the 17 Provinces were assembled by the Dukes of Burgundy and Charles V. This part was illustrated by maps from the Mercator Museum library and private collections of Lydia Cordon and Eric Leenders. Philips II toured his future inheritance, the Low Countries in 1549. This was demonstrated on a large map made by *da Vignola*. Unfortunately he would not enjoy his inheritance for long. For in 1568 an insurrection started, called the 80-years war, caused by excessive Spanish authority, religious animosity and the repression of Calvinism by the Inquisition. This would lead, after many bloody wars, to a separation between a protestant north and a Spanish catholic south. The separation between the Northern and Southern Netherlands became a fact through the treaty of Münster in 1648. As a result the river Scheldt would be closed during 200 years and the city of Antwerp, at first the economic heart of the Low Countries, would decline to a provincial city, only to be freed by Napoleon.

The destructive part was illustrated by engravings by F. Hogenberg, P. Verbist, F.B. van Berckenrode, J. Luycken, G. Boutats, Baudartius, R. De Hooghe a.o. These engravings were on loan from the Prentenkabinet Antwerpen, Sincfala Museum Heist and private collections of Lydia Cordon and Eric Leenders.

Eric Leenders.



The text, on the right side of the map, describes the march through Flanders by the republican troops in 1600 in order to free Nieuwpoort. Engraving by F.B. van Berckenrode

BIMCC Programme for 2008

- **Friday 24 October 2008, 13.00 [Attention: the date was postponed by one week!]**

BIMCC Autumn Excursion

Excursion to Leiden University Library *Bodel Nijenhuis Map Collection*
Witte Singel 27, NL-2311 BG Leiden

Bodel Nijenhuis (1797-1872) was a pioneer in cartography. He worked in the book trade and collected books and maps. He left his collection to the University of Leiden.

Martijn Storms, curator of the *Bodel Nijenhuis Collection,* will prepare a special map exhibition during the afternoon. He will guide us through the collection, rich with van Keulen manuscript maps, sea charts, VOC maps, colonial maps a.o. He will also show us the library.

The visit will, as usual, be free of charge and is limited to 20 participants, with preference for paid-up BIMCC members. The visit is conducted in English.

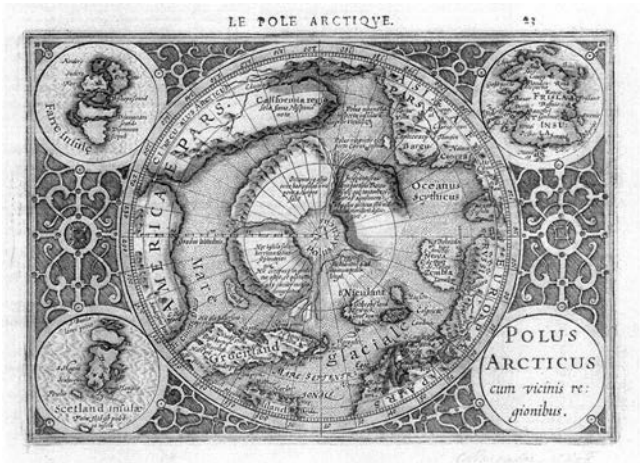
The registrations will be dealt with on a first come – first served basis. Registrations can be sent by email to info@bimcc.org or mailed with the enclosed registration form.

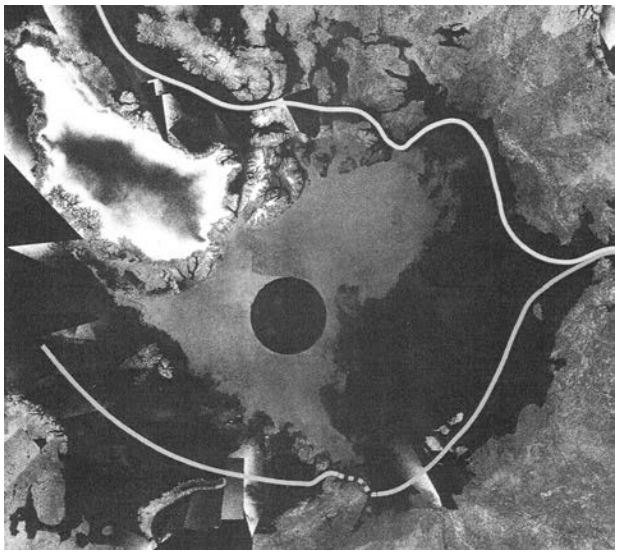
- **Saturday 13 December 2008, 9.30 - 16.30**

BIMCC Study Session

Maps on the north pole
By Francis Herbert, *Former Curator of maps at the Royal Geographical Society*

He will update his thesis and present the evolution of maps of the north pole, from the imaginary black stone from Mercator to a more realistic view, namely masses of packed ice blocking the entrance of the Bering Straits. He will describe the failed passage trials to the east and west.





North pole maps in the future
By Hugo Decleir, *Prof. Geography V.U.B. (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)*

Our generation is witnessing for the first time how climate is changing the earth and will ultimately necessitate new maps. Ice is melting fast. Already a passage to the west of the Arctic looks feasible in our lifetime – the one to the east will be witnessed by our children. This is already leading to the creation of not only new landscape maps but also geological ones due to the presence of oil under the north pole.

Compass-windroses
By Martijn Storms, *Curator Bodel Nijenhuis Collection at the University Library of Leiden*

He will lead us through the world of the wind and compass roses. He will also trace them back to their regional origin and tell us whether there is a connection with the rhumb lines on portolans.



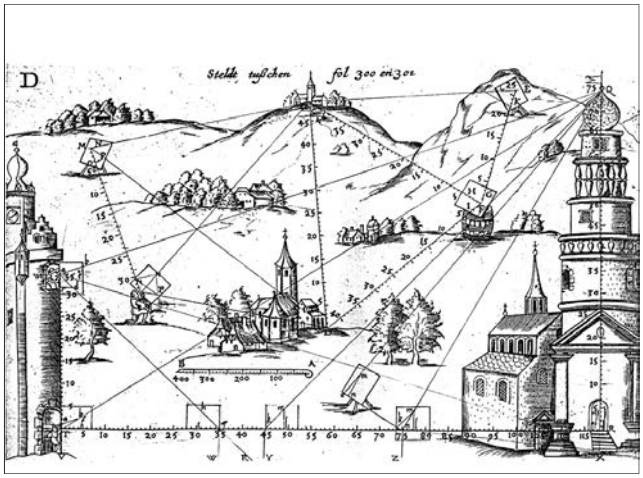


Latin on maps
By Peter van der Krogt, *Head of the historical cartographic research group, Explokart, University of Utrecht.*

He will explain to us what many of us should know, but have forgotten about the meaning of Latin texts; he will translate mainly texts on cartouches. We will finally understand what we were looking at. Participants will receive the article on cartographic Latin by Peter van der Krogt in Dutch or English and a lexicon of 150 cartographic Latin words translated into Dutch, French and English by a group of BIMCC members.

Topography in practise
By Eric Leenders, *M.D.* and **Jan De Graeve,**
Surveyor and historian in surveying techniques

They will demonstrate the true first topographical trials by triangulation realised by J. van Deventer on his regional maps. These maps were reconstructed to wall maps on which we will demonstrate some triangles. The precise results obtained by the *grandissimo geografo* will surprise you.



All presentations will be held in English
Each presentation will last approx. 35 min., followed by 5 min. of questions
A 'conference hand-out' with the professional profile of each speaker and an abstract will be distributed.
The venue will be the same as for the last Map Evening, i.e. the House of the Belgian Union of Expert Surveyors, Rue du Nord/Noordstraat 76, 1000 Brussels (Metro Madou or Arts-Loi/Kunst-Wet).
Admission is free for paid-up BIMCCMembers; non-members pay EUR 10.00 at the reception desk (This includes the traditional 'apéritif').
Participation in the Speakers'Lunch at own expense (about EUR 30.00).
Registrations can be sent by email to info@bimcc.org or mailed with the enclosed registration form.

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



Compiled by Glenn Van den Bosch
fb550506@skynet.be

News

Dr Albert Ganado's collection of early Malta maps goes to government of Malta

In July 2008, the Maltese parliament unanimously approved a resolution to the effect that lawyer and historian Dr Albert Ganado and his wife Muriel Ganado can now transfer a rare collection of Malta maps valued over EUR 1 747 500 to the government of Malta in exchange of the immovable property where Dr Ganado and his wife live. The said immovable property, which has been rented by the government to the Ganado family for a very long time, is valued at EUR 1 727 500.
Dr Ganado, who was a Speaker at the BIMCC 'Mare Nostrum' Conference in December 2002, has long been recognised as the outstanding authority on the mapping of Malta.
His collection, which was built over a period of 50 years, is without equal and is the largest and most complete collection of antique maps of Malta in the world. The manuscript maps are unique and many of the maps are very rare and are not found on the market. The Ganado collection is probably the only one that shows the development of certain representations of the Maltese islands such as the Great Siege of 1565 and the plans of Valletta.
'These Great Siege maps are of great importance as some of them were printed whilst the siege was in progress to disseminate the news in Europe.'
The collection consists of 19 manuscript maps, and 431 printed, single sheet maps made between 1507 and 1899. Many of the maps were made before 1570 when Abraham Ortelius published the first standard Atlas.
The maps will be kept in the National Museum of Fine Arts in Valletta. They will not be put on permanent display but will be exhibited during specific exhibitions. (Source: info@tonycampbell.info)



Malta (Coronelli, 1692)

Events

25th International Antiquarian Book Fair of Brussels

19 - 21 September 2008
Brussels, Belgium

The International Antiquarian Book Fair has become one of the most important events for the bibliophiles and book lovers. During three days specialists from Belgium and abroad present and offer for sale a large choice of antiquarian books, illuminated books, collectors, antiquarian cards and unique editions.

The BIMCC will again have a Stand (No 40)
Friday 19 September 2008: from 16.00 to 21.00.
Saturday 20 September 2008: from 11.00 to 19.00.
Sunday 21 September 2008: from 11.00 to 17.00.
Centre for Fine Arts 'Bozar', rue Ravenstein 23, B-1000 Brussels. http://www.bibliofair.be/

Interdisciplinary Conference: Mapping Eastern Europe

25 - 27 September 2008
Berne, Switzerland

The second conference of the Forum Ostmittel- und Südosteuropa (FOSE) is aimed especially at new scholars and at experts on Eastern European history, but also at scholars from all disciplines that deal with Eastern Europe and its cartographic representation through the ages.
Papers will be presented in German, English or French.
Additional information from Forum Ostmittel- und Südosteuropa (FOSE), c/o Schweizerische Osteuropabibliothek, Hallerstrasse 6, CH-3000 Bern 9.
http://www.oewiss.ch/fose/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=26&Itemid=27

Lectures 'Die Macht der Karten - oder: Was man mit Karten machen kann [The power of maps - or: What you can do with maps]'

26 - 27 September 2008
Berlin, Germany

These are a series of lectures sponsored by Frithjof-Voss-Stiftung in cooperation with the map department of the Staatsbiblitothek zu Berlin. The central theme focusses on the use and misuse of maps throughout history.
Lectures will be at Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Simon-Bolivar-Saal, Potsdamer Str. 33. Preregistration is necessary. Subscription forms can be downloaded from: http://www.geographie.de/aktuelles/vossstiftung2008_karten.pdf

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

29th Antiquarian Book, Map and Print Fair

23 - 25 October 2008

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Passenger Terminal Amsterdam (PTA) right behind Amsterdam's Central Railway Station, on the wharf of 'Het IJ'. This location is easily accessible by public transport, and there is a car park for 400 cars, with taxi and bus ranks.
Piet Heinkade 27, Amsterdam.
http://www.amsterdambookfair.com/

Washington Map Society Lecture

'Antique Map Price Record history and trends in antiquarian map trade'

30 October 2008

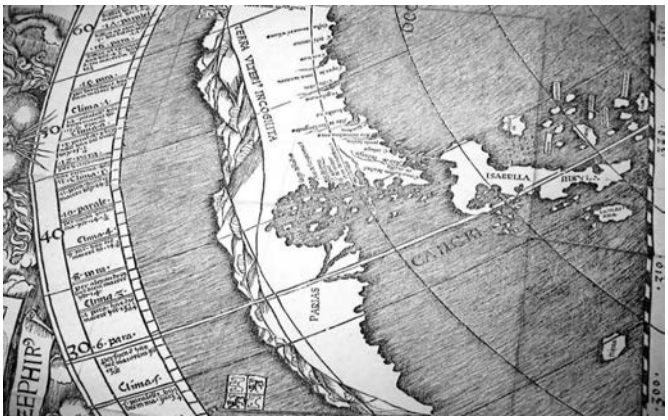
Jeremy Pool will address the Society on the 25 year history of the Price Record. His talk will give a sense of how and why the Antique Map Price Record began and how it has changed over the years. He will answer some of the most frequently asked questions about the Price Record. He will also discuss insights into trends in the antiquarian map trade provided by the over 120,000 records. Finally, he will describe the recently added Map Collection Manager which allows collectors to catalogue their own collections.

Zeno's Mice: Martin Waldseemüller, Johannes Schöner, and the Rise of Theoretical Cartography 1490-1525'

13 November 2008

By John Hessler.

One of the most remarkable features of the extant manuscripts of the astronomer and mathematician Johannes Schöner, who was the original owner of the Waldseemüller 1507 and 1516 world maps, comes from his annotations in the various editions of Ptolemy's Geography that he owned. This literature is characterized by a great number of handwritten corrections and complex annotations that show his thinking about theoretical cartography and the state of the art in the early sixteenth century. Schöner's library contained some of the most important books on cartography and geography that were available at the time, including copies of the 1482, 1509 and 1513 editions of Ptolemy's Geography, the *Cosmographiae Introductio*, and of course the only surviving copies of the 1507 and 1516 World Maps by Martin Waldseemüller. By examining Schöner's manuscripts and by looking closely at the complex mathematical and cartographic problems that he was trying to solve, John Hessler will show the difficulties of researching Renaissance cartography and try to dismiss many of the myths and platitudes that have plagued Waldseemüller scholarship for more than a century.



Detail of Walseemüller 1507 world map

The Washington Map Society meets at 19.00 in the Geography and Map Division, B level, Library of Congress, Madison Building, 101 Independence Avenue, Washington D.C., USA.
For more information email Dennis Gurtz: dmg01@comcast.net
http://www.washmap.org/

Warburg Lectures, London

'The Meridian of Greenwich: When did it move, and Why, and Where is it?'

6 November 2008

By Graham Dolan, F.R.A.S. (Senior Educational Officer, The Greenwich Observatory, London)

'New Light on the Maps and Mapping in Ancient Mesopotamia'

4 December 2008

By Prof. Francesca Rochberg (Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of California, Berkeley)

At University of London, Warburg Institute, Woburn Square, London WC1H OAB, at 17.00.
Enquiries to +44 (0) 20 8346 5112 (Catherine Delano Smith) or Tony Campbell (email: t.campbell@ockendon.clara.co.uk) or visit http://www.maphistory.info/warburgprog.html

14. Kartographiehistorisches Colloquium

(14th Colloquium on the History of Cartography)

6 - 8 November 2008

Hamburg, Germany,

organised by : 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).

An excursion to either the Giant Gottorf Globe or the Ebstorf Mappa Mundi is planned for Saturday, 8 November.
Museum für Kommunikation, Gorch-Fock-Wall 1, D-20354 Hamburg
Participation EUR 90 (includes proceedings published subsequently). Students EUR 10.00 (without the proceedings volume) or EUR 45.00 (with the proceedings volume). To register, and for any further information, contact Dr Markus Heinz, Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin - PK, Kartenabteilung, Potsdamer Strasse 33, D-10785 Berlin, Tel +49 30 266 27 25, Fax +49 30 266 30 10, markus.heinz@sbb.spk-berlin.de.

7th Paris Map Fair,

Saturday, 8 November 2008

Maps, atlases, globes, travel books from all parts of the world.

The BIMCC will again have a Stand

At Hotel Ambassador, 16 Boulevard Haussman, Paris 11.00-18.00
Friday evening: cocktail reception and dinner (reservation required). For information contact: info@loeb-larocque.com, Tel/Fax +33 (0)1 44 24 85 80

Technical aspects of the Hereford *mappamundi*

25 November 2008
Cambridge, UK

Cambridge Seminar in the History of Cartography. Lecture by Spike Bucklow
At 17.30 in the Harrods Room, Emmanuel College (Hamilton Kerr Institute), St Andrew's Street. Cambridge, UK
Refreshments will be available after the seminar. For any enquiries, please contact Sarah Bendall at +44 (0)1223 330476 or email : sarah.bendall@emma.cam.ac.uk.
http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/deptserv/maps/camsem0809.html

Maps, Climate, and the Environment from Antiquity to the Present

Friday 5 December 2008
Paris, France

A one-day colloquium organised by the history of cartography commission of the *Comité français de cartographie.*
At the Archives Nationales, Paris
Info: Catherine Hofmann, Tél. + 33 1 53 79 83 59,
Fax : + 33 1 53 79 83 61, catherine.hofmann@bnf.fr

International Antiquarian Book Fair of Flanders

5-7 December 2008
Mechelen, Belgium

Antiquarian book and map fair with participants from Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany and France. The website offers information about the participants to the fair and the catalogue.
In the Cultural Centre, Minderbroedersgang 5, Mechelen.
The date and opening hours for the 2008 Fair are as follows:
Friday 5 December 2008: 14.00 - 20.00.
Saturday 6 December 2008: 11.00 - 18.00.
Sunday 7 December 2008: 11.00 - 17.00.
http://www.antiquarenbeurs-mechelen.com/engels/index.htm

Exhibitions

In search for Eldorado

28 June - 5 October 2008
Rotterdam, The Netherlands

On display at the Maritime Museum, the exhibition shows charts and maps of the Guyana's from the 16th until the 19th century. It tells the story of the adventurers and pioneers who tried to build a new life there. One of the highlights of the exhibition is the first published Dutch map of Surinam made by the surveyor Willem Mogge in 1671.
Maritime Musem, Leuvehaven 1, Rotterdam. Opening hours: 10.00 - 17.00 except on Sunday 11.00 - 17.00. Closed on Monday.
www.maritiemmuseum.nl



Haarlem op de kaart gezet , historische kaarten en hun functie (Haarlem in maps, historical maps and their functions)

Until Tuesday 26 October 2008
Haarlem, The Netherlands

This splendid exhibition displays more than 60 objects: maps, city plans, and townscapes of Haarlem as from the 16th century up to the present. The most important object in this exhibition is a map of Haarlem of 1539, which rests in the Archives of the Great Council of Mechelen at the National Archives in Brussels. This is the oldest map of Haarlem. This unique map has never been exhibited in the Netherlands and is as such the absolute top object of the exhibition. The map was commissioned by the city of Haarlem, in a dispute on a border issue with the lords of Heemstede over excise-free beer and pubs on the territory of Heemstede just outside the Haarlem city borders. The map was to be used as evidence in the Court of the Great Council of Mechelen, which was the highest Court at that time. Haarlem is the most Flemish city of the northern Netherlands. At the end of the 16th and the beginning of the 17th century thousands of Flemish immigrants settled in Haarlem and brought with their knowledge and skills, especially in the linen industry, prosperity to the town.
KunstkerkBakenes, Bakenesserst., Haarlem, The Netherlands
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday 11.00 - 17.00

The Atlas Maior of Blaeu

16 June - 23 november 2008
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Seven different Atlas Maior's from the collection are on display, as well as several individual Blaeu maps. Work of other map makers of the Blaeu era such as Janssonius and Frederick de Wit is also represented. The exhibition further shows printed travel diaries to India and the journal of the unfortunate discoverer Willem Barentz.
Special collection of the University of Amsterdam, Oude Turfmarkt 129, 1023 GC Amsterdam, Tel. +31 (0)20-5257300.
Free entrance.
http://bc.uba.uva.nl/bc_tentoonstellingen/info.cfm

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

Gonzaga delle Nebbie
(Gonzaga from the mists)
13 September – 30 November 2008
Mantua, Italia
The exhibition aims to divulgate the history of the branch of the Gonzaga family descending from Francesco Gonzaga (1445-1496); a family that after the death of Ludovico II and the fragmentation of his vast estate ruled all the lands between the Oglio and Po rivers for more than two centuries. In the first section of the exhibition called 'Sala di città' visitors will have the opportunity to see and admire old maps and pictures of all the towns, from Gazzuolo and Bozzolo to Rivarolo, Pomponesco, and Isola Dovarese.
Palazzo Pubblico at Rivarolo Mantovano.
Opening hours: 10:00 - 19:00 from Monday to Sunday.
Entrance fee : EUR 5.00; reduced ticket 3.00.
http://www.museionline.it/news/show.php?idnews=3520

'On the Map' American Maps from 1500 to 1800 from the Seymour I. Schwartz Collection
Until January 2009
Charlottesville, USA
Rare, significant maps that chronicle the Age of Exploration, European empire-building, the French and Indian War, and the American Revolution.
At the main gallery at the Mary and David Harrison Institute for American History, Literature, and Culture, and the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, University of Virginia.
http://www.lib.virginia.edu/harrison/
http://www.lib.virginia.edu/small

'Le mètre'
9 January - 7 February 2009
Braine l'Alleud, Belgium
About the introduction of the metric system in 1789 and its impact on the cadastre etc.
Musée communal, 18 place du Carinal Mercier, B-1420 Braine l'Alleud
Opening hours: Monday to Friday: 9.00 to 17.00,
Saturday: 10.00 - 12.30 and 13.30 - 16.00
Info. Tel.: +32 (0)2 395 56 05

Do not miss the next Newsletters!

In the coming BIMCC Newsletters, you will find, in particular:

- *Baarle-Nassau-Hertog, A cartographic puzzle,* by Eric Leenders and Caroline De Candt
- *Antwerp a forgotten Marquizate*, by 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



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.

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7 - 8 November,
12 - 13 December 2008

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26 - 27 September 2008

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10 - 16 December 2008

Antoine Jacobs - Librairie des Eléphants
(BIMCC Member)
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11 October, 15 November,
13 December 2008,
17 January 2009

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5 - 7 November 2008

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25 - 28 Nov. 2008, 26 - 29 May,
24 - 27 November 2009

Who is who in the BIMCC Executive Committee?

Eric Leenders, President
Born 1936 in Leuven (BE).
M.D. Surgeon - Prof. Univ. Antwerp - Former Chief of Surgery.
Co-founder Belgian Soc. and world federation of Pediatric Surgery.
Course History of Cartography in Utrecht University by Prof. Schilder.



Caroline De Candt, Vice-President & Secretary
Born 1956 in Gent (BE).
Master of Laws.
Former head of cabinet of governor of the province East-Flanders (Belgium).
Co-Manager of cartographic company.



Roland Delrue, Treasurer & Membership Secretary
Born 1938 in Brussels (BE).
Former product and quality manager in a distribution company, then general manager of a consulting company specialised in quality management (support to small and medium-size companies in the preparation of ISO 9001 quality certificate).



Delphine Strauven
Born 1978 in Sint-Truiden (BE).
Master in History (Brussels), Middle Ages specialist.
Catalographer of antique books (15^{th}-16^{th} cent.), atlases, maps.



Jean-Louis Renteux, Editor
Born 1943 in Valenciennes (FR).
Engineer in Aeronautics (Paris, San Diego) and economist (Brussels).
former official of the European organisation for the safety of air navigation (Eurocontrol).
Founding member of the BIMCC.



Pierre Parmentier, Webmaster
Born 1948 in Brussels (BE).
As an engineer is active in civil works in Belgium and abroad since 38 years.
Has been at the origin of the BIMCC Web site.
Participates in orienteering competitions.



Lisette Danckaert, Scientific Advisor
Born 1930 in Mortsel (Antwerp, BE).
MSc Geography (Brussels).
Former Map Librarian, Royal Library of Belgium.
Many authoritative publications on the history of cartography (see NL 22 and 32).



Lydia Cordon
Born 1942 in Antwerp (BE).
Antiquarian Map and Print dealer.
Course of History of Cartography in Utrecht University by Prof. Schilder.



Jan De Graeve
Born 1945 in Bruges (BE).
Belgian chartered surveyor
Former President Union of Belgian Surveyors, Hon. Dir. Int. Institution for the History of Surveying and Measurement, etc.
Originator of the UNESCO World Heritage List recognition of the Struve Meridian Arc.
Contributed to many exhibitions and publications on the history of cartography and surveying.



Henri Godts
Born 1952 in Leuven (BE).
Antiquarian bookdealer / auctioneer.
President *Union Belgo-lux. du Marché de l'Art* (UBEMA), former President *Chambre professionnelle belge de la Librairie ancienne et moderne* (CLAM-BBA).



Rob Harren
Born 1944 in Harthem-Valkenburg (NL)
Publisher, Vice-President *Union des Editeurs de la Presse Périodique.*
Course History of Cartography in Utrecht University by Prof. Van der Krogt.



Alex Smit
Born 1943 in Alkmaar (NL)
Textile engineer. Very international career in general and business management in multinational companies; currently president of a French chemical company.



BIMCC

BRUSSELS INTERNATIONAL MAP COLLECTORS' CIRCLE

http://www.bimcc.org

Aims and functions of the BIMCC

The BIMCC is a non-profit 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. Organize lectures on various aspects of historical cartography, on regions of cartographical interest, on documentation, paper conservation and related subjects
3. Organize visits to exhibitions, and to libraries and institutions holding important map and atlas collections.

In order to achieve these aims, the Circle organizes 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.
- A STUDY SESSION or an INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on a specific major topic every year in December.

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Becoming (and staying) a BIMCC Member

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

Annual membership: EUR 30.00,
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under 25: EUR 12.00

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and notify the Members Secretary indicating your name and address.

BIMCC Newsletter

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

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

For advertising in the BIMCC Newsletter
(and on our Web site www.bimcc.org),
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