



BIMCC Newsletter N°14, September 2002

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Dear Map Friends,

Our Autumn Issue contains a number of significant events organised by the BIMCC, firstly our Excursion to the private collection of Mr Bohrmann in Hasselt on Saturday morning, 12 October; as places are limited, we would suggest early registration. Apart from this collection, there are other also interesting places of local interest to visit during the afternoon. Our major event is our December Conference "Mare Nostrum – Maps of the Mediterranean", at 9.30 on Saturday, 14 December at College St Michel, Brussels; our event co-incides with the Mechelen International Antiquarian Book Fair. Full details on P19.

The First Paris Map Fair, to be held in the prestigious Hotel Ambassador, on Saturday 16 November 2002, preceded by an auction preview of maps, atlases and views at 6, Rue de la Grange-Bataliere, is organised by our Sponsors, Miss Beatrice Loeb-Laroque and Paulus Swaen. BIMCC will have a manned stand at this Fair.

Members are active on various fronts; Marcel Watelet spoke on "Les Sources Cartographiques : leur histoires, leur fabrication, leur lecture" in Mariemont, Belgium, at its Conference on Cartography on 28 September 2002. Our frequent contributor, Johan Vanvolsem lectures on cartographers and surveyors, during the Halle, Belgium, Cultural Week, on Tuesday, 1 October at 20.00. Finally, Rene Tebel, of the University of Vienna, will speak at the Warburg Institute in London, on the "Significance of the ship image in early modern maps from the 10th to the 17th C" on 1 May 2003. Further details in Events.

Nearer home, Brecht Devroe, son of our Sponsor, Filip Devroe, of Gent, has opened his new Map Gallery in 35 Rue St Jean-Janstraat, near the Brussels Grand Place. Brecht has a fine selection of prints, maps and rare books from all over the world.

This Newsletter contains a wide range of articles, in line with many of your wishes, as expressed in your replies to our Questionnaire. The incisive article on Mercator by Rodney Shirley, who spoke at our Conference two years ago, shows the range of Cartographic activity in the Netherlands region during the 16th C, a fact reflected in Jan Willem van den Brandhof's article on Page 3. Finally, thanks again to those assiduous members who completed our Questionnaire.

Brendan Sinnott, *Editor*



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Two New Map Books and One Exhibition

by Jan Willem van den Brandhof, MA

Two Dutch Provinces – Drenthe and Friesland – recently offered fascinating glimpses into their cartographic past and enriched the world of the map collector with two new books which, regrettably for BIMCC members, are already becoming collectors' items.

Drenthe published an atlas with manuscript maps recently discovered in French archives. The atlas, *De Franse kaarten van Drenthe en de noordelijke kust* [ISBN #90-806727-1-8], provides a detailed overview of those parts of Drenthe which had not been mapped by earlier cartographers. Drenthe, after all, was in those days a province not known for important or strategically placed cities. Even today it is more known for its bicycle paths and Observatory than its historic past. The maps were clearly drawn for military purposes and lack the decorative elements so appreciated in 17th century maps. However, with their distinctive colours for areas with agricultural and farming lands, grasslands, hayfields, moors, drifting sands or *sable mouvant*, *bois forêts*, *bois feuillage*, *bois sapin*, *bois taillis*, *broussailles*, *bruyère*, *bruyère humide*, *bruyère et pâturage*, *tourbière*, *sarrasin*; they provide charm and details not found on earlier maps while offering valuable insights for to-day's archeologists, historical geographers and urban and rural planners. Every map is traceable to the *Ingénieur Géographe* responsible for the fieldwork and commented on - in detail - by historians familiar with the area charted.

The decision to chart the Province of Drenthe and the coastlines of Friesland and Groningen came from the highest level, from the same man who "*estimait qu'une carte détaillée est une arme de guerre*": Napoleon Bonaparte. Interestingly, work was started on the area directly by the sea, a clear indication of the prevailing priorities at the time, i.e., 1811. Napoleon feared an English/Russian invasion and commissioned the *Corps Impérial des Ingénieurs Geographes* to chart and draw 25

maps of Drenthe proper and 15 maps of the Friesian and Groninger coasts. The *Ingénieurs Geographes* completed their fieldwork in 1813, two years before the Battle of Waterloo. After Waterloo the maps were stored and forgotten by the *Ministère de la Guerre* at the *Château de Vincennes* together with similar maps of the German coastline made during the same period.

Professor Koeman found the unique set of maps on one of his trips to Vincennes and discovered to his surprise equally detailed maps of the German coastline in the same drawer. The discovery of the German maps was a truly serendipitous event as they were filed under the same heading as the Drenthe maps. It is to be hoped that German cartography enthusiasts will muster equal zeal and interest in this part of their history as the *Drentse Historical Society* and also publish "their" French maps in due time.

The maps certainly merit interest and publication; all are drawn on a scale of 1:20.000 and measure 100 by 50 centimeters, showing in detail the countryside with its villages, churches, windmills, road signs, ditches, locks, dikes and the ramparts of the forts and fortifications in towns like Harlingen and Delfzijl.

The mapmakers of the Friesian and Groninger coastlines concentrated more on the ease with which invaders could establish beachheads rather than on the difficulties confronting a hostile flotilla when navigating these very tidal waters between the shore and the Friesian islands. Their maps are void of the depth markings so characteristic for the Waghenaar and Van Keulen sea maps of 'T Wadt, the Noordzee and the North Sea Islands. Only major shallows and tidal in- and outlets as *Het Wieringer Gad*, *Het Friesche Gad* and *Het Groninger Diep* are shown.

The first copy of *De Franse kaarten van Drenthe en de noordelijke kust* was presented



at the conclusion of an interesting symposium in Assen to his Excellency Relus ter Beek, High Commissioner of H.M. the Queen for Drenthe Province. Ter Beek avowed to be an avid map collector himself, concentrating his efforts on maps from his hometown, Coevorden. During the symposium the exhibition at the *Ryksargyf* was announced, prompting your correspondent to next plan a visit to the Friesian capital.

Friesland presented part of its rich history at its *Ryksargyf*, a modern building housing a superb collection of manuscript and printed maps from the 15th century through the first half of the 19th century. The exhibition ran from early December 2001 through January 2002 and the organizers had the fortunate courage to publish a well documented map book containing copies of all the maps on display: *Hoogtepunten van de Friese cartografie* [ISBN #9-789033 012273] which - at the time of writing - can still be obtained at the *Noord Nederlandsche Boekhandel* [tel. 058-2123827].

The exhibition proper showed wood block maps side by side with prints from copper and steel plates recording thousand years of struggle against the water; of land reclamation, of economic prosperity and commercial decline and, above all, of pride in the Friesian heritage. In a roundabout manner the exhibition also detailed the widespread "recycling" of copper plates in the 16th and 17th century. A 1578 plate from Gerardus de Jode was good enough for his son - Cornelis - in 1593 for his "version" of *Frisia antiquissimae*. The 1600 engraving from Joannem van Deutecum served 16 years later Petrus Kaerius for his "*Nieuwe beschrijvinge van oost en west vrieslāt*" and was still in good enough a shape for Claes Jansz. Visscher when he purchased and published the Van Deutecum/Kaerius plate in 1624. A 1628 plate by the same Claes Jansz. [*Tabulae Frisiae, Groninghe et territory Embdensis*] was 90 years later still in use in the print shop of Petrus Schenk junior. If imitation (and copying) is the most sincere form of flattery, then the *Ryksargyf* certainly can be

proud of its collection.

The exhibition chronicled nine centuries of dike building and land reclamations. The work of local surveyors like Johannes Sems, Adrianus Metius and Bernardus Schotanus à Sterringa was eagerly sought and used by the early map makers from Antwerp and Amsterdam. Only Jacob van Deventer surveyed and drew his



A fine map of Friesland by Mercator, a contemporary of van Deventer and his constant competitor

own maps. Particularly interesting was his 1545 map of Het Bildt with the islands of Terschelling and Ameland as these are not often depicted on such a large scale. But, then again, Jacob van Deventer was and still is unsurpassed as a surveyor as he amply demonstrated with his accurate surveys of four other provinces (Brabant, Gelderland, Holland and Zeeland) and his large collection of plus 223 city maps.

Boldly coloured wood block maps from



Sebastian Münster's *Cosmographia* and Philip Galle's *Epitome* editions of the oblong Ortelius atlases vied for attention with city maps from the hands of the Hoogenberg brothers. The latter were particularly interesting as most of the sixteenth century features recorded by them still can be seen to-day. The work of Friesian cartographers was also on display: Pierius Winsemius' beautifully decorated 1622 map (*Frisia Occidentalis*) was a delight to look at and rightly inspired Claes Jansz. Visscher when cutting his already discussed *Tabula Frisiae* six with its border decorations comprising the eleven Frisian cities and costumed inhabitants. Another map in its own right was the 1704 manuscript *Slachtedyk* map from Pieter Idserdts Portier showing a gracefully meandering dike running to and from fifteen towns and villages, all delicately drawn with sharply etched profiles and their corresponding coats of arms. Beauty won't make the pot boil, but the organizers had recognized the beauty when they saw it and

sold facsimile prints of the Idserdts' map for the quite reasonable sum of €7,50.

A final treat – at least for this collector - was the original copperplate of one of the many "grieterijen" or withy-lands displayed next to the page featuring the print. One can only look with admiration at an original copper plate, it is not possible to even start guessing the time, efforts and skills required to achieve the perfection which their engravers achieved with so precious few tools.

The exhibition certainly merited the "detour" all the way from tiny Luxembourg and your correspondent considers himself the fortunate owner of two new map books which, with their limited print runs and in view of the level of collectors' interest they generated, subtly underline the age-old caveat for any collector worth his salt that "the time for buying is disproportionate to the time available for enjoying and treasuring a prized possession".

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CASTIGLIONI WORLD MAP

Seville, 1525

Il Bulino edizioni d'arte

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Price: € 750,00

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The *Castiglioni World Map* is a large nautical map dated 1525, drawn on four sheets of vellum joined together to make up a single 815 X 2140 mm sheet, originally titled *Carta del navigare universalissima et diligentissima* : 'the most universal and accurate navigational map'. The map is considered to be of great historical and cartographic interest in that it gives visual and documentary support to the theories of the curvature of the Earth, displaying the world immediately after the discoveries made by Magellan and Pigafetta, during their circumnavigation of the globe. The map was donated by the Emperor Charles V to Baldassarre Castiglioni, apostolic nuncio in Spain. It then remained property of the Castiglioni family in Mantua until the year 2000, when the Italian State acquired it in order to destine it to the Estense Library of Modena, which already houses an important cartographic collection. Il Bulino edizioni d'arte proposes, under the patronage of the Ministry of Arts and Culture and the Estense Library, a **facsimile edition** of the *Castiglioni World Map*. The original sized reproduction of the navigation map is numbered and certified, and comes in a specially made presentation box, complete with commentary.

The CASTIGLIONI WORLD MAP facsimile will be on display during the BIMCC Conference
"Mare Nostrum - Maps of the Mediterranean " on December 14th 2002 in Brussels
(see Programme in this Issue)

We will be at your disposal for inquiries and orders:

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di un approfondito studio storico-scientifico, con la



LOOKS AT BOOKS (I)

MERCATOR: THE MAN WHO MAPPED THE PLANET

By Nicholas Crane, Weidenfeld & Nicolson, London 2002. Pp. xiii + 348; 16 colour plates and 22 black-and-white illustrations in the text. ISBN 0 297 64665 6. Price £20

Contemporary and present-day map historians acknowledge Gerard Mercator to be the outstanding cartographer of his century and beyond. He towers above all other early map-makers. But somewhat surprisingly up to now there has been no full biography of him in English. This is amply remedied by Nicholas Crane's detailed and perceptive study.

Born in 1512, Mercator lived a full life until his death in 1594, aged 82. He rarely moved outside a turbulent area of the Low Countries embracing Rupelmonde, Louvain, Antwerp, and Duisburg. Orphaned while still in his 'teens, Mercator was benefacted by his uncle, who saw him through the rigors of late medieval philosophical studies at Louvain university followed by geography at nearby Mechelin. As Crane says: "Leaving Louvain as a wavering philosopher, he would return as a committed geographer." Perhaps at this time Mercator's tendency to reclusivity took root although he seems to have established close contacts with the most progressive mathematicians in the Low Countries: Monachus, the instrument-maker Van der Heyden and, particularly, Gemma Frisius, Mercator's tutor in mathematics.

As if in anticipation of his life as a fully fledged cartographer Mercator now immersed himself in the skills and practices of mathematics applied to heavenly bodies or astronomy, practical surveying through triangulation, the art of globe and instrument-making, and in preparing a manual of italic lettering. At this stage, his output was slight but was already of the highest quality: celestial and terrestrial globes, a world map after Oronce Fine and wall maps of the Holy Land (6 sheets) and Flanders (9 sheets). Then in the early 1540s when Mercator was just 30 there was a pause in his life. Almost certainly this was associated with the waves of

religious wars and civil unrest that swept across the Low Countries: Lutherism versus the Catholicism of the Holy Roman Empire. Mercator was discreet in his religious commitments but for seven anxious months he was imprisoned as a suspect heretic. On release in September 1543 his life had to begin again, and he finally found relative freedom in moving to the town of Duisburg in the duchy of Jülich-Cleves-Berg.

Over the next years Mercator worked steadily on three major projects: his masterly wall maps of Europe (1554), the British Isles (1564) and the World (1569). Crane subscribes to the view that it was probably a draft map of Britain by the Catholic Scot John Elder that was transmitted to Mercator for him to engrave, which he did "...with great diligence, fidelity, dexterity and perfection". However, of greater influence than any other work was Mercator's large map of the world on 21 sheets which was published five years later. Its novel projection allowed mariners to read off a constant bearing by means of a straight line. Although slow to be adopted generally it was a concept of immense value, and Mercator's projection is still widely used today.

Mercator was now almost 60 and started to work on a huge life-project: to describe the whole world first as it was known to the ancients, and then by means of a thoroughly researched and systematic set of modern maps. The first part bore fruit in 1578 with his studious edition of the *Geographia* of Claudius Ptolemy; the second took 20 years longer to complete and was not finished until after Mercator's death in 1594. The third part of Mercator's *Atlas* did not appear until 1595, concurrent with the complete publication posthumously of his great work. It bore the expressive title (originally in Latin): 'Atlas, or cosmographical



reflections on the creation of the World and the formation of its parts'.

One of Mercator's next-generation contemporaries said of him: "For his behaviour and manner of life, he had a quiet and meek spirit, and was of great integrity and sincerity of heart, a lover of peace, both public and private, and an honourer of his superiors; a lover of his neighbours, and a great favourite of study and learning, preferring other men before him."

Nicholas Crane has solidly researched all these aspects of Mercator's life and many other contemporary facets--the politics of the time, the slow and uncertain unfolding of geographical knowledge, the sixteenth-century map trade, relationships with other savants such as John Dee in England and Abraham Ortelius in Antwerp, and Mercator's theological works. There is a great deal of information packed inside this relatively small book, no pseudo-psychoanalysis and not much padding. End notes and a bibliographical listing occupy over 45 pages.

My main criticism is, I suppose, of publication economics. There are some nice illustrations in the book but they are inadequate to accompany a significant biography of such an important map-maker. Mercator's world map of 1538 is a tiny image 8.5 cm by 13 cm; his world map of 1569 is a murky reproduction compared to, for instance, the similarly sized one in Fite and Freeman's *The World Encompassed* of 1952. Only a portion of Mercator's Holy Land map is shown (and this, I suspect, is taken from a later edition by C J Visscher) and there are no illustrations whatsoever of his Flanders or British Isles wall maps. Detailed verbal descriptions in the text become tedious without a visual picture.

I have never, so far, reviewed a book and suggested that its price is too cheap. But I do so here, and believe that the publishers have erred in pricing Crane's *Mercator* at only £20. The grand work *Gérard Mercator Cosmographie* (Fonds Mercator Paribas, 1999) perhaps went too far in its sumptuousness but a scholarly yet readable work of this calibre deserves

better illustrative support. Nevertheless all map lovers and map historians should not fail to buy and enjoy reading Nicholas Crane's work. I hope that they do.

Rodney Shirley



Photo : Micheline Kumps

This statue by Raoul Biront was inaugurated a year ago in the Mercator Lane, in Leuven. A bronze replica 20,7 cm high and weighing 3,1 kg is obtainable from the artist at Mercatorpad 8/101, B-3000 Leuven (Tel/Fax ++32-(0)16/20.19.66 or mobile 0472/41.39.45), for 200 € – special price for BIMCC Members.



LOOKS AT BOOKS (II)

Cartographie de la France et du monde de la Renaissance au Siècle des lumières

(The cartography of France and of the World, from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment). By Monique Pelletier. Paris : Bibliothèque nationale de France, 2001. ISBN 2-7177-2176-2. Pp. 108, 35 b/w and 16 colour ill., 24 x 16.5 cm, 15,20 € (paper).

The four articles contained in this booklet are based on presentations given by the former (now Honorary) Director of the Map Library of the Bibliothèque nationale de France, Monique Pelletier. The author is, of course, well-known to our readers since she was a Speaker at our second International Conference in December, 2000, and her numerous publications featured prominently in our Study Session « Books on Maps » in February, 2001.

The first article is on mapping in Renaissance France, with a closer look at the personalities and the work of cartographers who have been influenced by Flemish and German scientists of their time and who, in turn, inspired later mapmakers in the Low Countries. This sustained exchange of cartographical concepts between France and the Low Countries is evident in the works of Oronce Fine, Guillaume Postel, Jean Jolivet, to name only these. Striking examples of this interchange are the cordiform and bi-cordiform presentations of the world, and Monique Pelletier gave us many more examples of this phenomenon of cultural cross-fertilization in her presentation in 2000.

The next chapter gives an overview of the globes held in public collections in France. Well over 170 specimens are listed, among which 13 of the 16th century (including the painted « green globe », attributed to Waldseemüller, ca 1506), 36 from Dutch map and globe makers of the 17th century (Blaeu, Hondius, van Langren), and 119 terrestrial and celestial globes of the 18th century, largely of French manufacture ; plus, of course, the famous giant globes by Coronelli measuring 3.85 m in diameter, offered in the 1680's to King Louis XIV¹). Much interesting background information is given on the concepts of globes and their makers.

Military cartography of France is the subject of the next chapter. As of the 17th century, royal

authority based its power on the fortified sites of the Kingdom. Specific military atlases were prepared by the King's engineers, with particular attention to strategic aspects of the terrain and the strengths and weaknesses of own and enemy fortifications. This naturally led to the drawing up of battle scenes in which the King's armies were victorious, but assumed a more rational character when general surveys, including of overseas possessions, were undertaken in the 18th century. Naudin, Masse, Berthier, Bourcet and Montannel, not so well known to many of us, are the main actors on this scene.

In the last chapter, devoted to scientific cartography in the Age of Enlightenment, the author evokes the creation of the « Académie des Sciences » in 1666 and draws a striking portrait of the Cassini dynasty under whose direction outstanding progress in the surveying of France was made, culminating in the famous Carte de Cassini in 181 sheets (cf BIMCC Newsletter N° 10, p. 8). The science of cartography in France was further advanced by Guillaume Delisle (1675-1726), disciple of Jean-Dominique Cassini (I), by Jean-Baptiste Bourguignon d'Anville (1697-1782), Philippe Buache (1700-1773), Jacques-Nicolas Bellin (1703-1772), best known for his numerous sea charts, and Jean-Baptiste d'Après de Manneville (1707-1780), to name only the more commonly known cartographers who lastingly influenced European map making in the following century which saw the emergence of 'modern' cartography.

Wulf Bodenstein

¹). These globes can be examined in all their splendour on a CD-ROM issued by the Bibliothèque nationale de France in 1999, *Les Globes de Louis XIV – La Terre et le Ciel par Vincenzo Coronelli*, go to www.bnf.fr for further details.



LOOKS AT BOOKS (III)

Les îles – du mythe à la réalité (Fabulous islands – from myth to reality)

By Monique Pelletier (ed.). Paris : Editions du Comité des travaux historiques et scientifiques (CTHS), 2002. ISBN 2-7355-0454-9. Pp. 248, 46 b/w ill., 24 x 16 cm, 31 € (paper).
[CTHS, 1, rue Descartes, F-75005 Paris]

Islands have held an unfathomable fascination for travellers since antiquity. They were shelter, hide-out, stepping stone to farther lands, sites of dramatic shipwrecks, they were paradise or hell, were found, and lost, in the immense oceans that man began to explore, and they were often no more than figments of the imagination, of dreamers, visionaries or charlatans.

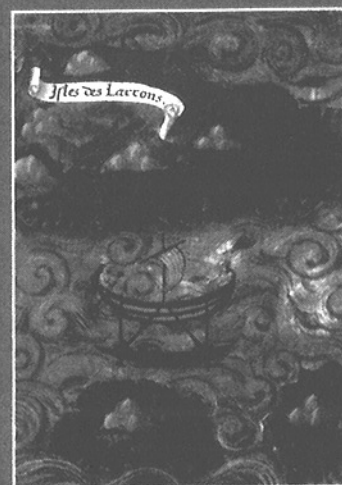
This little book represents the proceedings of the 123rd National Congress of the French Historical and Scientific Societies, Geographical Sciences Section, held appropriately on the island of Martinique in 1998. The 16 presentations cover a wide spectrum of recent research under the headings of *Real and imagined islands*, *Early presentations of islands on maps*, and *Island life in the past*.

Christian Bouchet and Delphine Fardeau offer a discussion on the Homeric islands referred to in the Odyssey and propose an interesting connection to Atlantis (At the risk of appearing pedantic, I think original quotes – here in Homer's Greek – require proof-reading by someone who can read the language properly : the 'navel' is ομφαλος, not ομγαλος, and the genitive ανδρων should not be rendered as αυδρου). Daniel Pajaud and Jacqueline Lorenz treat the myth of Atlantis from another angle, taking us from the Cyclades island of Santorin to the Azores and back. Odile Gannier looks at the concept of islands in Columbus' times, whilst Suzanne Gély discusses the Utopian ones of Plato and Moore. We have recently been discussing medieval cartography, and here the 35 pages by Danielle Lecoq make fascinating reading, spanning the time from Isidore de Seville (died 636) to the Catalan Atlas of the 14th c., with interesting details on islands on the

Hereford world map.

Monique Pelletier examines the presentation of islands on two maps by Waldseemüller : the world map of 1507 (the one on which the name America appears for the first time, previously Schloss Wolfegg in Bavaria, now in the Library of Congress), and the *Carta Marina* of 1516, documenting some decisive geographical changes due to the revision of data firstly based on the accounts of Marco Polo and updated by the reports of more recent voyages to the spice islands. Another great name in the history of cartography is then presented by Eliane Dumotier-Sigwalt : the cosmographer

Les îles du mythe à la réalité



Editions du Comité des travaux historiques et scientifiques



André Thevet, whose *Grand insulaire et pilotage*, containing manuscript as well as printed maps, was compiled around 1587 as a draft but never went into print. The representation of islands around the world on nearly 100 maps is a remarkable complement to his better-known *Cosmographie universelle* of 1575.

Aspects of techniques of navigation are introduced by Hubert Michéa, with some interesting details about the finding of latitude, and the more complex acquisition of longitude ; Monique Gros and Simone Dumont complement this with an account of the observations of longitude made by the first French astronomers/cartographers who travelled to the islands of West Africa and the

West Indies. Yolande Vragar and Monique Pelletier then consider cartographic surveys and mapping of Guadeloupe and Martinique respectively.

The last section contains five contributions dealing with life in the Caribbean islands have little connection with cartography but are no less interesting : the lives of a missionary, a medical doctor and of French emigrants from the Béarn are described ; a 19th century account of medical conditions in the West Indies and some ancient photographs of Martinique complete this chapter.

In all a very readable, well-documented collection of historical essays on islands on maps – mythical or real.

Wulf Bodenstein

LOOKS AT BOOKS (IV)

Atlas Universal – Diogo Homem

By Alfredo Pinheiro Marques and Ludmila Kildushevskaya. Barcelona : M. Moleiro Editor, 2002. ISBN 84-88526-62-8. Pp. 334, 116 colour ill. of which 28 double page, plus 56 colour vignettes in the text. Cloth cover, dust jacket, 33.5 x 23.5 cm. Bi-lingual text Spanish-English. [M. Moleiro Editor, Travesera de Gracia 17-21, E-08021 Barcelona , Tel ++34-932-40.20.91, Fax ++34-932-01.50.62, www.moleiro.com, e-mail mmoleiro@moleiro.com]

Two high-quality facsimiles of 16th century manuscript world maps have attracted our particular attention recently : one was the *Castiglioni Planisphere* (1525) reproduced by Il Bulino edizioni d'arte in Modena, the companion book of which we reviewed in Newsletter N° 13 ('Looks at Books II', p. 7), the other is the *Atlas Universal* by Diogo Homem (ca 1564) reproduced by Moleiro Editor in Barcelona, and it is the book accompanying this Atlas which we present here.

Diogo Homem, son of the famous Portuguese cartographer Lopo Homem, was born around 1520 ; early in his life he was forced to leave his native country owing to some alleged trouble with the law, and spent the remainder of his life in London first, in Venice later where he probably died. Between 1557 and 1576 he produced no less than fourteen manuscript atlases and thirteen manuscript maps, and although only 17 of these works were signed, the others, including the atlas discussed here, have been attributed to him with certitude by the experts.

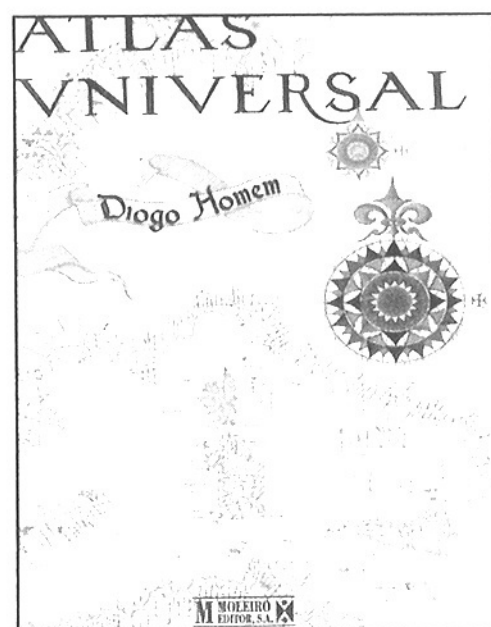
The first and most extensive part of the book, by Prof A. Marques, Director of the Centro de Estudos do Mar (Coimbra University), gives us a succinct introduction to the vast complex of Portuguese cartography, from early Catalan-Majorcan sources of the fifteenth to the 'heydays' of the schools of cartography in the sixteenth century. Prof Marques discusses the findings of earlier researchers and adds his own, most prominently in regard to the enigmatic story of the Homem clan and their recorded works. What makes this part so eminently readable is the very clear presentation of all the constituent elements of cartographic production of that era, in a chronology that covers the history of Mediterranean chart making , the impetus derived from Portuguese discoveries both of new navigation techniques and new lands, as reflected in their charts, and the influential role of Portuguese cartography in France and in the Netherlands.

The second part is a contribution by Dr Ludmila Kildushevskaya, Head of the Cartography De-



partment of the National Library of Russia, Saint Petersburg, where the original *Atlas Universal* is kept. Although thematically overlapping with the preceding chapter in some respects, it provides useful complementary data on Portuguese exploration and its repercussions on Portuguese cartography. There follows a brief description of the atlas, and the contents list of the 19 plates it contains provides a welcome link to the last part of the book: a commented run of smaller-scale reproductions, either partial or in full, of each of the nineteen plates. It is here that the real beauty of the facsimile becomes apparent, being a faithful reconstitution in colour, including silver and gold print. Incidentally, the same high standard of reproduction was applied to all the other map reproductions in the book which illustrate the references to related cartographic works - for instance the Catalan Atlas by Cresques (1375), Ptolemy's world map of 1466, the Cantino world map (1502), the so-called Atlas Miller (ca 1519) and many other portolan charts. Further reading on this absorbing subject is suggested in the extensive bibliography with which the book closes.

Our readers may recall the prospectus about



the Facsimile Edition which came with the last Newsletter (May 2002). It announced the first complete 1 : 1 reproduction in full and faithful colour, of this unique manuscript atlas of the world of the mid-sixteenth century. Together with its companion book this a remarkable publication - highly recommended.

Wulf Bodenstein

LOOKS AT BOOKS (V)

De Lage Landen en hun Grenzen

Tussen Verdun en Londen; 1000 jaar grensgeschiedenis met Frankrijk. (The Low Countries and their boundaries. From Verdun to London; 1000 years of boundary history with France)

P.W. Stuij. Ed.: Heemkundige Vereniging Terneuzen, WH. Broekhuysen, Postbus 1180, 4530 GD Terneuzen (The Netherlands). 1998. 112 p., 20 original maps, 31 black and white illustrations. Hard cover (30 x 21 cm). ISBN 90-803089-2-7.

Map collectors and devoted amateurs will sooner or later run up with difficulties in demarcating the old frontiers on their maps when comparing them with the present ones. This is the case for many countries of Europe and certainly for the Belgian outline through the centuries. It is very often difficult to delineate its boundaries in detail even with the help of the best reference books, even if available. Here we have now a book on the boundaries of the Low Countries; but read carefully the subtitle of the book: their boundaries with France, which means those between France and Belgium.

This rather plain, simple and unpretentious work will be helpful in giving you the desired information.

This book has two main sections. Part I: The boundaries from Verdun (843) to the Peace of Cambrai (1529). This first part of the book, although as interesting as the second part, will normally be of little or no concern to the map collector, unless he/she possesses very exceptional and old maps. But Part II on the contrary is most gratifying: From the Peace of Cambrai (1529) to the partition of the Kingdom



of The Netherlands in Holland and Belgium (1830-1839). The different periods characterized by large territorial losses in the Low Countries (especially at the expense of the old Flemish county) after the Peace of the Pyrenees (1659), the later shifts under King Louis XIV, and even more after the Peace of Aachen (1668), the never-ending movement of the boundaries with exchanges of territories after the Treaty of Nijmegen (1678) are all interesting chapters to be read by the assiduous cartographer. All these remarkable changes can be followed and fully understood,

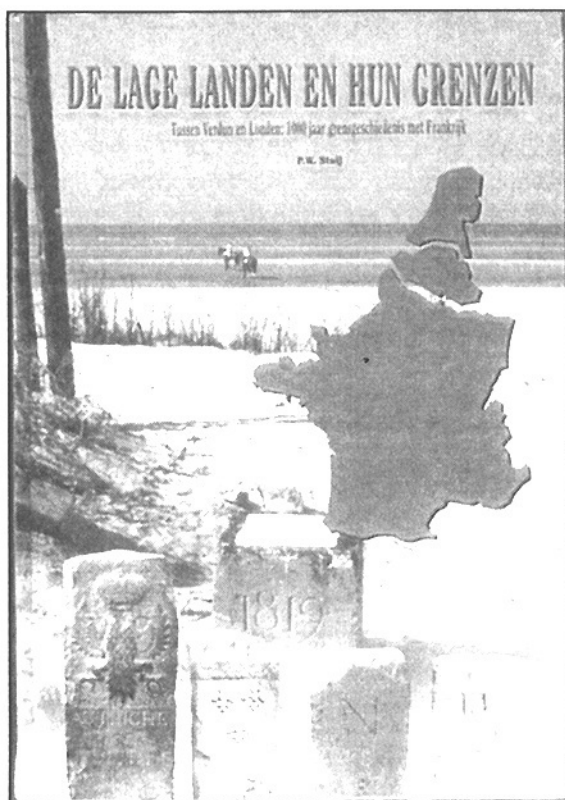
and the south-western of the province Namur still remained points of dispute; this region was initially assigned to France after the first Peace of Paris (1814), but later, after Waterloo and after the second Peace of Paris (1815) to the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The author takes also time to explain the destiny of the different enclaves of Philippeville, Barbençon and Mariembourg. Also the final fate of the French bastion Givet is carefully explained.

The book is illustrated with pictures of different memorials and monuments, frontier poles and other memorabilia and contains twenty clear maps. But I really expected to find some reproductions of old maps to illustrate the boundaries of that time: such as Blaeu's *Novus XVIII inferiores Germaniae Provinciarum...* (*Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*) of 1635, or why not a *Leo Belgicus*? Or a map showing the Spanish Netherlands like the one by G. Sanson, *Les Provinces des Pays-Bas Catholiques...*, drawn upon the Treaty of Nijmegen (1678), the frontiers from which map may be compared with these of the later map by L.Ch. De(s)nos, *Les Pays bas Catholiques*, drawn in 1766 after the treaties of Utrecht, Rastatt and Antwerp (1713-1716) with fairly accurate boundaries. And finally, why not some plates of the fine maps of the count of Ferraris who surveyed and drew the boundaries of the Austrian side and of Cassini on the other side? All of these maps would certainly have enhanced the quality of the book. Also, irritating in this book are some strange spellings of town names: Philippsville (for Philippeville), Rijssel (for Rijsel). There are no French nor English summaries. There is no index. Although textually concise, this book may certainly be recommended as a reference work for the map collector, to the public libraries and to everyone who wants to know more about the vicissitudes of the Belgian-French boundary.

Pierre Mattelaer

Further reading:

Essen, van de, L. *Atlas de géographie historique de la Belgique* (1920)
Girard d'Albissin, N. *Génèse de la frontière franco-belge. Les variations des limites septentrionales de la France de 1659 à 1789.* Paris. 1970.
Lemoine-Isabeau, Cl. *Centre d'Histoire Militaire, Travaux: n°s 19 (1984), 23 (1988) and 29 (1997).* Musée Royal de l'Armée. Bruxelles.



even by the non-historian, with the help of neat originally drawn maps, for which much care has been taken to constantly use the same patterns and scale, which makes it very clear. After the Peace of Utrecht (1713) we see already pointing up the definitive boundary. The boundary as it was finally delineated in 1789/1790 is practically the definitive line between Belgium and France as it is at the present time. Only the southern part of Hainaut



Utrecht University's Interesting Explokart Project

Explokart: Utrecht Research Programme in the History of Cartography

Old maps are the only documents that effectively provide a contemporary image of spatial situation as it was in the past. Therefore, old maps are indispensable resources for historical spatial research. The research programme of the history of cartography at Utrecht University, entitled *Explokart*, is dedicated to make an inventory, description, and facsimiles of Dutch wall maps, topographical maps, sea charts, hydrographical maps, and globes. The aim of *Explokart* is to offer guidance to the users of old maps. This is accomplished by informing the users about the specific characteristics of cartographic materials, as well as the problems involved in their interpretation. *Explokart* classifies these documents and makes them accessible to members of the discipline and to the general public.

Utrecht University has the only Chair in history of cartography. It functions as a hub of national and international contacts. A high level of expertise has been built up in Utrecht. Moreover, research in the department has led to the publication of several authoritative texts on the discipline. These have received international acclaim. The importance of the work conducted within *Explokart* was affirmed by the decision to designate history of cartography as a priority research theme in faculty's research program. *Explokart* has a protected status, forming one of the four official 'jewels' of Utrecht University, thanks to the high standard of publications on the field by:

- making an inventory of the unique Dutch map material.
- saving this material by conservation, restoration, and publication.
- making facsimiles, whereby a selection of this material can be accessible all over the world.
- publishing, to stimulate even greater recognition of the Dutch contribution to cartography and a greater appreciation of our country in historical-cultural perspective.

The staff of the research program of *Explokart*

is formed by Professor Dr. Günter Schilder, projectleader and two editors: Dr. Peter van der Krogt and Dr. Paul van den Brink.

The professional members within *Explokart* are working on the following projects:

Günter Schilder: **Monumenta Cartographica Neerlandica**. 6 vol. 1986-2000. Volumes 7-10 are in preparation. The aim of this series is to present an inventory of rare and significant Dutch maps and charts from the period 1550 and 1700. Many maps are reproduced in full size facsimiles.

Peter van der Krogt: **Koeman's Atlantes Neerlandici**. 2 vol. 1997-2000. Eight more volumes are planned. Volume 3 is almost in production. This series will form a revised version of Koeman's *Atlantes Neerlandici* (5 vols. 1967-71; with a supplement in 1985).

Peter van der Krogt: The **Atlas "Blaeu-Van der Hem"**. 2 vol. 1996-1999. Three more volumes are planned. Volume three is in production. The aim of this series is to present a descriptive catalogue of The Atlas Blaeu-Van der Hem. It is considered to be the finest collection of maps, topographical prints and drawings that has been bequeathed to us from the seventeenth century. The 46 volumes of the collection, now preserved in the Austrian National Library, contain 2400 maps, views of towns and harbours, seascapes and landscapes from all over the world. All the images will be reproduced.

Paul van den Brink: **Mapping by The Royal Dutch Geographical Society. (KNAG)**. A cartobibliography of all the maps published by the Society from 1873 until today will be the main goal of this research.

Marco van Egmond: **Ph.D research on the map publishing house Covens & Mortier**. The Dutch commercial cartography in the 18th century. A study of the importance of the publishing firm Covens & Mortier for the collection, production and distribution of geographical information in The Netherlands and foreign countries.

Peter Meurer: **Life and work of Christian Sgrothen**. The complete cartographical oeuvre



of the cartographer Christian Sgrothen (1520-1604).

Tutorials in historical cartography / Working-groups with volunteers.

Another important addition to the research-activities of *Explokart* is the contribution by volunteers. *Explokart* is gratified by the interest shown in the field by an increasing number of readers, who seek to get involved in the research activities of *Explokart*. In order to accommodate them, the staff started in 1993 giving a tutorial in the bibliography of maps. Having first followed Schilder's general course in the history of cartography, these volunteers are participating later in a special course in cartobibliography (provided by Van der Krogt and Van den Brink). Finally they form part of a working-group with a special subject, guided by projectleader Günter Schilder and the editors Peter van der Krogt and Paula van Gestel – van het Schip. The intention is to present the results of this research in a publication series: *Utrechts Historisch-Kartografische Studies* (Utrecht Studies in the History of Cartography). The first volume was published in 2000 (see number 1), the second volume in 2001. (see number 2). The efforts of highly qualified volunteers made it possible for *Explokart* to study topics in historical cartography that would otherwise have been left undone by the tenured

staff for lack of time. At present *Explokart* is giving another eighteen tutorials, for which 36 volunteer participants are engaged in research:

1. *Hollandia Comitatus. Een kartobibliografie van Holland*. Map bibliography of the County of Holland: 32 x 24 cm, 488 p., 260 illustrations. In Dutch with an English summary. Published in November 2000.
2. *Guicciardini Illustratus. De kaarten en prenten in Lodovico Guicciardini's Beschrijving van de Nederlanden*. Maps, plans and city views of the seventeen Provinces published by Lodovico Guicciardini in: *Descrittione di tutti I Paesi Bassi*, 1567-1662 in 26 editions. Published in November 2001.
3. Maps and plans in Dutch pamphlets until 1648.
4. Maps in bibles published in the Seventeen Provinces, c. 1450-1800.
5. Carto-bibliography of maps published in the German Magazine: *Petermanns Geographische Mitteilungen*, 1855-1945.
6. Maps, plans and town views in Dutch publications concerning travels to the area of the formerly Sovjet-Union and Poland (16th-



This map shows the routes of the campaigns of the Swedish King Charles XII in the Russian and Polish regions from 1700 to 1714. The map appeared in: *Histoire de Suède sous le Règne de Charles XII*. A Amsterdam chez les Chansons a Waesberghe, 1721. 6 volumes. Part of the treasury of maps published in the Seventeen Provinces (cf Pt 4 above)



- 18th century).
7. Vellum manuscript navigational charts of the Dutch East India Co. (VOC) 1600-1800.
 8. Cartobibliography of printed Dutch polder maps until 1850.
 9. The cartographic work of Gijsbert Franco Baron von Derfelden van Hinderstein (1783-1857).
 10. Carto-bibliography of the Province of Friesland.
 11. The cartographical work of the 17th century Amsterdam publisher Jacob van Meurs.
 12. An illustrated cartobibliography of all the wall maps issued in the Netherlands between 1550 and 1700.
 13. Cartobibliography of printed maps of the continent of Africa. 1508-1700.
 14. Bibliography of maps of Ceylon of the Dutch East-Indian Company.
 15. Carto-bibliography of the Duchy of Brabant.
 16. Bibliography of printed maps of the Zuider-zee.
 17. 18th century atlases. NB: this group is preparing a volume for Van der Krogt's Koe-man's Atlantes Neerlandici.
 18. Carto-bibliography of the Province of Gelderland.
 19. Carto-bibliography of the Province of Zeeland.
 20. Carto-bibliography of the Provinces of

THE MAP OF THE AUSTRIAN « SOUTHERN RAILWAY » AND THE FASCINATING STORY BEHIND IT

Early railroad maps from 1850ies belong to the interesting but the often overlooked memorabilia of the «industrial revolution» in Europe. Although «only» about 150 years old they are in contrast to «ordinary» maps from the same period, being full of informative and decorative details which make them particularly interesting for a dedicated collector. Unfortunately, as most of them were not printed in atlases but as separate editions issued on different occasions, many copies have been lost and the originals of these maps are nowadays scarce and difficult to find. However, surprises do happen sometimes - during my 6 years period of map collecting I recently found an interesting railroad map, published on the occasion of the opening of the Austrian «Southern Railway» (Südbahn) connecting imperial capital Vienna with the most important Austro - Hungarian port of Trieste in 1857.

Construction of the «Southern Railway» was a very ambitious project of an otherwise rather conservative Austrian imperial government.

The preparations started quite early – already in 1841 – and its first part from Vienna to Graz was opened for traffic in 1844. The continuation of the project on Styrian territory (today divided between Austria and Slovenia) from Graz to Ljubljana (Laibach) presented more problems due to different local political and economical interests and especially due to a demanding terrain and more difficult working conditions. Nevertheless, the new track reached the largest lower- Styrian town of Celje (Cilli) in 1846, soon crossed the provincial border between Styria and Carniola and the first train was greeted at the new Ljubljana railway station in 1849.

The third part of the «Southern Railway» was the most difficult to build. It took eight years to complete the last 142 km of the tracks between Ljubljana and Trieste. Here the construction required building of frequent tunnels, bridges and one of the longest viaducts in Europe to pass the unstable terrain of the Ljubljana moor and a high limestone «Karst edge» between



Karst plateau and the Adriatic coast. Only this technically most difficult part of the «Southern Railway» is shown on the map entitled: «Karte der k.k. Eisenbahn zwischen Laibach und Triest» published by Jožef Blaznik (Josef Blasnik) in Ljubljana in 1857.

The map, with dimensions of 68 x 40.5 cm consists of 18 equal areas of 14.2 x 11.1 cm carefully fixed on the grey canvas in the manner which enables it to be folded to «pocket» dimensions of 1/18 of its unfolded size. The reverse side bears a map title printed in opaque letters on a 7.1 x 4.8 cm paper without quoting the publisher. In a large cartouche in the left upper corner of the map, its title is followed by dedication to the count Gustav Chorinsky, the Austrian governor of Carniola by the publisher (Picture 1). Below the cartouche, a large detailed picture shows a train «heading south» on the largest viaduct of «Southern Railway» near Borovnica (Franzdorf). The additional text provides the reader with impressive technical data of the viaduct (length, number of arches and their span – shown on Picture 2). Further interesting information are given in the right lower corner – distances between the most important stations on the track, the length of the last 6 tunnels between Košana and Britof – illustrated by the picture of the train coming out of the tunnel at Britof (the last tunnel before reaching Trieste).

an unusual «snake – shaped» map, leaving quite large areas between cartouches and the mapped area blank (Picture 3). A more detailed look at the map reveals several interesting details.

Despite being printed as a black and white lithography, the most important object on the map – the railway – presented as a single bold black line is easily distinguished from important regional roads (double lines), rivers and a provincial border between Carniola (Krain) and Austrian littoral region (Küstenland) – which is crossed by the railway close to the town of Divača (Divazze). Even a very rapid and superficial look at the map explains the obvious difficulties encountered by the constructors – almost straight track over the Ljubljana moor which finishes with a viaduct at Borovnica and continues by steepy and curvy climbing into Notranjska (Inner Krain) hills. The curvy railroad passes six tunnels (marked on the map with numbers 1 to 6) on a relatively short distance between Prestranek and Divača, directly crosses the Karst plateau and reaches Trieste in a long arch, building of which was unavoidable because of the great height difference between Karst and Trieste. The names of the towns, villages, rivers and mountains on the predominantly Slovenian territory are given almost exclusively in German (for Carniolian part) and Italian (in Littoral part)



The map itself is positioned in between of the both pictures representing symbolically the beginning and (almost) the end of the new railroad. The landscape covered on it is limited to a distance of about 8 – 10 km on each side of the railroad. Since the whole track is quite curvy, such presentation gives an impression of

what was in accordance with the Austrian policy of the time (the situation slowly changed towards the end of the 19th century allowing more bilingual or only Slovenian naming on the maps).

An interesting speculation is connected with the



exact date of the map's publication. Although the map is not dated, it is well known that the railway was opened in 1857 and the available literature¹ quotes this year also as a date of its issue. Interestingly the description of this map in the book of Korošec mentions the name of the graveur (k. k. Geometer Anton Kubiznak) on the copy of the map kept in the Archive of Slovenia in Ljubljana which is absent on a copy available to the author of this article. The map in the archive is also a one – sheet map, uncut and not fixed on the canvas. This fact at least allows the conclusion, that the map was printed in two varieties – one with the name of graveur and another without it – and (at least a part of) one edition was cut into 18 pieces glued to a canvas and sold or distributed to a broader public during an important occasion, such as

the opening of the railway in 1857.

Overall an interesting story of an important railway and its map, which was published to spread the message of the new industrial era and indirectly – glorifying the strength of the Hapsburg empire.

Since a 150th anniversary of the opening of the «Southern Railway» (which is still in use) a reprint of this map with an appropriate commentary would seem an interesting idea for all the countries, connected and influenced by it – Austria, Slovenia and Italy.

Patrik Kolar

Literature:

1) Branko Korošec: Naš prostor v času in projekciji. Geodetski zavod SRS, Ljubljana, 1978. (« Our Space in Time and Projection» - An overview of Cartography on Slovenian Territory – in Slovene).

PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION

To make explicit what is implicit: the topo-geographical representation of Belgium at 1:50 000 scale

The splendid Bordiau hall of the Royal Army Museum of Belgium at the Cinquantenaire in Brussels was the host location of an exhibition presented by the Belgian National Geographical Institute (IGN-NGI). The exhibition was dedicated to the presentation of the new 1:50 000 scale map of the national territory. It was also the occasion to celebrate the 170th anniversary of the institute as well as the 25th anniversary of its semi-public status.

The exhibition presented a rare opportunity to see all 52 sheets of the new map assembled together onto one panel. As it was far too large to be easily readable, five other panels were displayed at eyelevel, each panel representing one horizontal strip of the map.

To view the complete area of Belgium on such a scale was an extraordinary experience. The variety of detail found in the tints and symbols, the morphology of the relief and the large ensembles (such as the old forts around Antwerp, Liège and Namur, the electrical energy network lines or the continuity of wooded areas) captured and held one's attention.

Special reference was made to the "Award for Excellence in Cartography" honouring the Antwerp sheet n° 15 of the map at the 20th International Cartographic Conference held in Beijing in August 2001.

Other aspects of the IGN-NGI missions were presented at the exhibition, including map generalisation, GIS and the 1:50 000 map as well as the new 1:100 000 and 1:250 000 maps. Some interesting ancient documents and topographical instruments were also on display.

One disappointing aspect of the exhibition was the fact that the displayed map sections were printed recto-verso. The reverse side of the sheets were largely covered by pink-violet ink in order to make them attractive when folded to pocket size. This ink showed through the paper and disrupted the clarity of the large panels. It was also surprising to note that some of the sheets presented differences in tone and colour. For example, at the intersection of two sheets, the grey of urban areas became a light rose and the dark green of forest turned to light green.



The 1:50 000 sheets were on sale at the bookshop of the Museum and it was announced that they would be available on two CD-ROM's in December 2002. Also on display were pamphlets announcing a 336-page topographical atlas of Belgium based on the new map and published by IGN-NGI, Lannoo and Touring.

The exhibition was organised by the National Geographical Institute (IGN-NGI) in cooperation with the Royal Army Museum, and it ran from 26 April 2002 to 25 August 2002.

Web links are: IGN-NGI <http://www.ngi.be> and Royal Army Museum <http://www.klm.mra.be>.

Pierre Parmentier

Positive Response to Our Readers' Questionnaire

Firstly, thank you those 21 enthusiastic readers who filled in our Questionnaire; this shows a lively interest in the work of the BIMCC. Nearly all of you approved of the revision of our annual programme, allowing for us to organise one major Conference every 2nd year but maintaining our core event, the Map Evening, plus either an Excursion or a Study Session.

On the content of the Newsletter – the flagship of the BIMCC – there was almost unanimous agreement on the current mix, with a desire for more punctual Exhibition news; we will try to reshape future issues. We had a disappointing response to our trawl for participants among members to help organise events; we will return to this in a later edition.

On the range of Cartographic areas we mentioned, we seem to cover most members' primary interests, two respondents mentioned Asia and voyages of exploration; we will see how we can meet your expectations but our contributor base is not very extensive. About half of those who replied would like information by email; however, a sample of 10 is not sufficient to develop an email dispatch system.

Overall, there was a high level of satisfaction with our current service to members; we will continue to revise our programme and publications in the light of members' wishes.

Brendan Sinnott



Our Treasurer, Pierre Mattelaer came across this interesting World Maze which was created in Uttling, on the Ammersee, near Munich, this Summer. It reflects the World in detail and was a popular regional attraction.



BIMCC NEWS UPDATE 2002/2003

Second Semester 2002

- **Saturday, 12th October**, Autumn Excursion to view Mr D. Bohrmann's private collection in Hasselt. We will meet at 10.30 at his address : Oude Kuringerbaan 107, in B-3500 Hasselt. This is how to get there from Brussels : Take motorway E 40 direction Liège, then motorway A2 direction Genk/Aachen. At the junction with motorway A 13/E 313 (Antwerpen-Liège), take direction Hasselt and leave this motorway at exit N° 27bis « Hasselt ». Follow the Kuringersteenweg, direction Hasselt, straight ahead, across the crossroads where there is a supermarket 'Carrefour' on your left. Then take second street on the left, passing 'Café Hasselt Sport'. 70 m further on, turn right and you are in the Oude Kuringerbaan. Your destination is just 50 m along, on your left.

This renowned collection comprises a significant number of fine atlases, maps and globes. At around 13.00 those who wish to join in the lunch will be guided to a nearby Restaurant (medium-priced, at your own expense) ; the excursion may be continued individually in the afternoon to visit the National Genever Museum in the Witte Nonnenstraat 19 (until 17.00h, admission 3 €, glass of Genever included) , the Fashion Museum in the Gasthuisstraat 11 (until 17.00h, admission 3 €), or the Japanese Gardens, the largest in Europe, in the Gouv. Verwilghensingel near the Albert Canal (until 18.00h, admission 3 €). Further info from the Tourist Office in Hasselt, Tel ++32-(0)11/23.95.40, toerisme@hasselt.be.

Participation is free, but is limited to 20 persons, and Members will be given preference. Non-Members may participate if places are vacant. Please use the enclosed Registration Form and submit to Pierre Mattelaer before 1st October.

- **Saturday, 14th December**, at 09.30 (registration as of 09.00), Collège St Michel, 24 Bd . St Michel, B-1040 Brussels, Metro 'Montgomery', free visitors' parking :

Third biennial International Conference : « Mare Nostrum – Maps of the Mediterranean ».

09.00	Registration opens
09.30 – 10.10	Dr Cyrus Ala'i, <i>Mapping of the Mediterranean by the Cartographers of the Classical Islamic Societies, 10th – 15th centuries</i>
10.15 – 10.55	Prof Dr Günter Schilder, <i>Willem Barentsz.'s 1595 Atlas of the Mediterranean, « Caertboeck van de Midlandtsche Zee »</i>
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee
11.30 – 12.10	Dr Albert Ganado, <i>Maps of Malta, focal point of the Mediterranean</i>
12.00 – 12.30	Aperitif
12.30 – 14.00	Speakers' Lunch
14.00 – 14.40	Monique Pelletier, <i>The Mediterranean and French Hydrography of the 18th century</i>
14.45 – 15.25	Dr Vladimiro Valerio, <i>Austrian, English, French and Napolitan chartmakers along the shores of Italy (1780 – 1860)</i>
15.30	End of Conference

Please note :

- All presentations will be in English, illustrated with slides or viewgraphs. Questions from the floor in another language (F,G,NL) will be translated by BIMCC officials.
- **Registration is required**, please use the enclosed Form and return to Pierre Mattelaer **before 20th November**

BIMCC Indicative Programme 2003

- **Map Evening** in April or May ; this brings together all those interested in maps, atlases and town views , for an informal chat about an item from their collection – an ideal opportunity to get to know the Circle
- **Fifth Study Session** in the Autumn, *Plans and Views of Towns and Fortified Places*.

All details in our January 2003 Newsletter.

Info 2003
2003

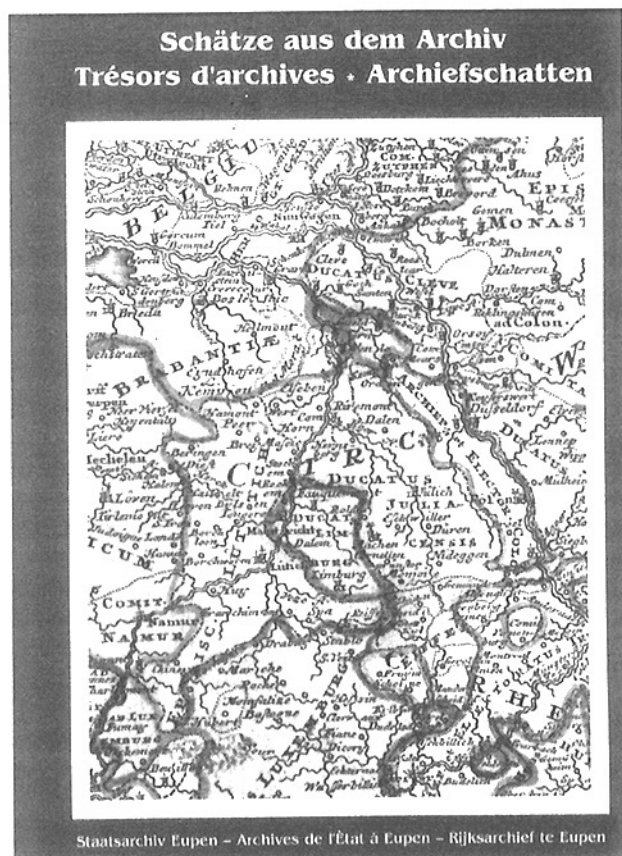


Treasures from the State Archives in Eupen – a Map Folder from the Eastern Cantons of Belgium

Schätze aus dem Staatsarchiv – Trésors d'archives – Archiefschatten, edited by the State Archives of Eupen in the series Monumenta belgarum orientium historica. Eupen, 2002 (no ISBN). 15 colour facsimiles in 35.5 x 29 cm carton folder, with commentary by Alfred Minke in D, F, NL; 14.87 €. [Orders to Grenz-Echo Verlag, Marktplatz 8, B-4700 Eupen, Tel. ++32-87-59.13.03, Fax ++32-87-74.38.20, www.gev.be, e-mail guido.bertermes@grenzecho.be]

The nine German-speaking communes in eastern Belgium constitute the smallest federal entity of the Kingdom, and possibly in Europe. The 71.000 inhabitants elect the 25 members of its parliament, and enjoy a much envied prosperity in one of the most attractive tourist regions of the country.

The very active editor Grenz-Echo Verlag has recently published a map folder with 15 colour facsimiles of maps and documents from the Eupen State Archives, relating to the cartography of that region. Enclosed with it is a chronological summary by Alfred Minke, in German, French and Dutch, of the eventful history of these provinces which changed hands so many times, and this provides the background and explanations of the reproductions.



The earliest documents (1330 and 1451) are of a legal nature and relate to the town of St Vith and the lands of Reuland, then belonging to the Duchy of Luxembourg. This region and the Duchy of Limburg were part of the southern Netherlands, also called the catholic Low Countries, under the Spanish crown from 1555 to 1714. An 18th century map by Tobias Maier (*Belgium catholicum seu Decem Provinciae...*) depicts the territorial boundaries. Another view of part of this area is from a map of the Electorate of Trier by the Homann Heirs (*Mosellae Fluminis tabula specialis...*, ca 1752). One of the oldest parish registers is the one begun in 1617 in the small town of Bütgenbach; its Latin and German entries can still be decyphered, with a bit of patience. When the region became Austrian territory in 1714, land holders were obliged to establish tables of the extent of their possessions; these were the bases of cadastral maps

drawn up later. The reproduction here is of the lands of Amel.

One such cadastral manuscript map (1736) shows the estates of Count von Hartscamp on Schloss Lontzen. Another manuscript reproduced represents the plans (1773) for a new road from Raeren to Aachen. Safe and efficient means of communications were essential for the



economic development of the region in a time of relative peace, and the related elevation profile of impressive high ground terrain reveals the determination of the planners to open up the country.

When the French annexed the province in 1795, its major part was integrated into the Département Ourthe (capital Liège), whilst a smaller portion came to the Département Sarre (capital Trier). The next change came 20 years later : the Vienna Congress gave these Cantons to the Kingdom of Prussia. In this process the curious neutral area of Moresnet, just north of Eupen, was created : in order to avoid open conflict, the very important zinc mines there were jointly administered by Prussia and the Kingdom of the Netherlands (see also the article by Kit Batten in Newsletter N° 6, Jan. 2000). A detailed plan of the mine's installations and an unidentified but visibly German map of 1831 show this area. The ensuing industrialisation is illustrated by an interesting ms. drawing (1834) of a system of water-wheels. Further communications were needed, exhibited in a road sketch of 1869 and a projected railway track (1883), which finally permitted the first train to arrive in Malmedy in 1885.

The Treaty of Versailles transferred sovereignty over the neutral Moresnet area and the three Cantons Eupen, Malmedy and St. Vith to the Kingdom of Belgium. Twenty-one years later, on 18th May 1940, Hitler annexed this area ; that this move had been planned well in advance is evident from the military map dated 1st May 1940 which , in what looks like a colour overprint, fixes the new western border of the Reich.

This attractively produced Folder will be welcomed by those who wish to become familiar with an area in the heart of Europe which stands out in our common history as a region marked by singularly dramatic political changes over the past 450 years. Just two remarks : it would have been helpful if the facsimiles could have been numbered chronologically, to follow the excellent tri-lingual commentary, but this is a minor point. The cover of the folder shows an extract of an 18th century map of the region not part of this collection, and not otherwise identified . Perhaps this is just a hint to say « We've got many more old maps – come and visit us. »

Wulf Bodenstein

FORTHCOMING AUCTIONS

- ◆ Reiss & Sohn, Adelheidstr. 2, D-61462 Königstein, **16 – 19 October**. Info from Tel ++49-6174-92.720, www.reiss-sohn.de , e-mail reiss@reiss-sohn.de
- ◆ Zisska & Kistner, Unter Anger 15, D-80331 München , **21 – 25 October**. Info from Tel ++49-89/26.38.55, Fax ++49-89/26.90.88, www.zisska.de
- ◆ Paulus Swaen Internet Auctions, **1-12 November** (see details in Sponsors' List)
- ◆ Michel Lhomme, Rue des Carmes 9, B-4000 Liège, **9 November**. Info from Tel ++32-4-223.24.63, Fax ++32-4-222.24.19, www.michel-lhomme.com , e-mail librairie@michel-lhomme.com
- ◆ Van Stockum, Prinsegracht 15, 's-Gravenhage, **13, 14 and 15 November**. Info from Tel ++31-70-364.98.40/41, Fax ++31-70-364.33.40, and www.vanstockums-veilingen.nl
- ◆ Ketterer Kunst, Neuer Wall 40, D-20354 Hamburg, **18 – 20 November**. Info from Tel ++49-40/374.96.10, Fax ++49-40/374.96.166, www.kettererkunst.de
- ◆ Romantic Agony, Brussels, **22 & 23 November** (see details in Sponsors' List)
- ◆ Béatrice Loeb-Larocque, Paris, **25 November** (see details in Sponsors' List)
- ◆ Bubb Kuyper, Jansweg 39, NL 2011 KM Haarlem, **27 – 29 November**. Info from Tel ++31-23-532.39.86, Fax ++31-23-532.38.93, www.bubbkuyper.com , e-mail info@bubbkuyper.com
- ◆ Van Gendt Book Auctions, Brandewijnsteeg 2, 1011 GN Amsterdam, **17 & 18 December**. Info from Tel ++31-20-623.16.69, e-mail info@vangendtbookauctions.nl



International News and Events

(See also www.ihr.sas.ac.uk/maps and www.docktor.com for further news and world-wide entries)

NEWS :

♦ New Map Gallery in Brussels

Many of our Members will have visited the stand of our Sponsor Filip Devroe from Gent (Antiquariaat Sanderus) at the major Map Fairs in Europe and abroad. During the past few years he has been assisted by his son Brecht who grew into the trade, assiduously studied the world of old maps and acquired the expertise which permitted him to start his own business. The 'Antiquariaat Brecht Devroe' opened in September and offers a wide range of decorative prints, maps of all parts of the world and some rare books. The beautifully appointed gallery is located at 35, St.-Jansstraat – Rue St. Jean, in 1000 Brussels, Tel ++3-(0)2/512.16.98, Fax ++32-(0)2/512.16.94. Opening hours are Tuesday to Saturday 11 – 12.30 and 14 – 18.00. We wish the youngest map dealer in Brussels every success !

♦ International Antiquarian Mapsellers Association (IAMA)

This recently formed Association is in the process of developing a dedicated IAMA web-site (www.antiquemapdealers.com) providing access through its contact page to a map collector discussion list related to trade and collecting, and not confined to a single dealer (www.antiquemapdealers.com/contact.htm). This discussion forum, animated by U.S. map dealer Joel Kovarsky (The Prime Meridian) intends to work in cooperation with the MapHist discussion group which is operational since many years already. We'll keep you informed about developments.

♦ Famous reference work on cartography re-published

Our French-speaking readers will be pleased to know that one of the classics among cartographic reference books has been re-edited earlier this year : *Le Langage des Géographes – termes, signes, couleurs des cartes anciennes 1500 - 1800* by François de Dainville (1909-1971). First published in 1964 and rapidly out of stock, it has become a rare find in antiquarian bookshops. Although considered a bit outdated by some, it still is a most valuable introduction to the essentials of cartography, towards 'understanding maps'.

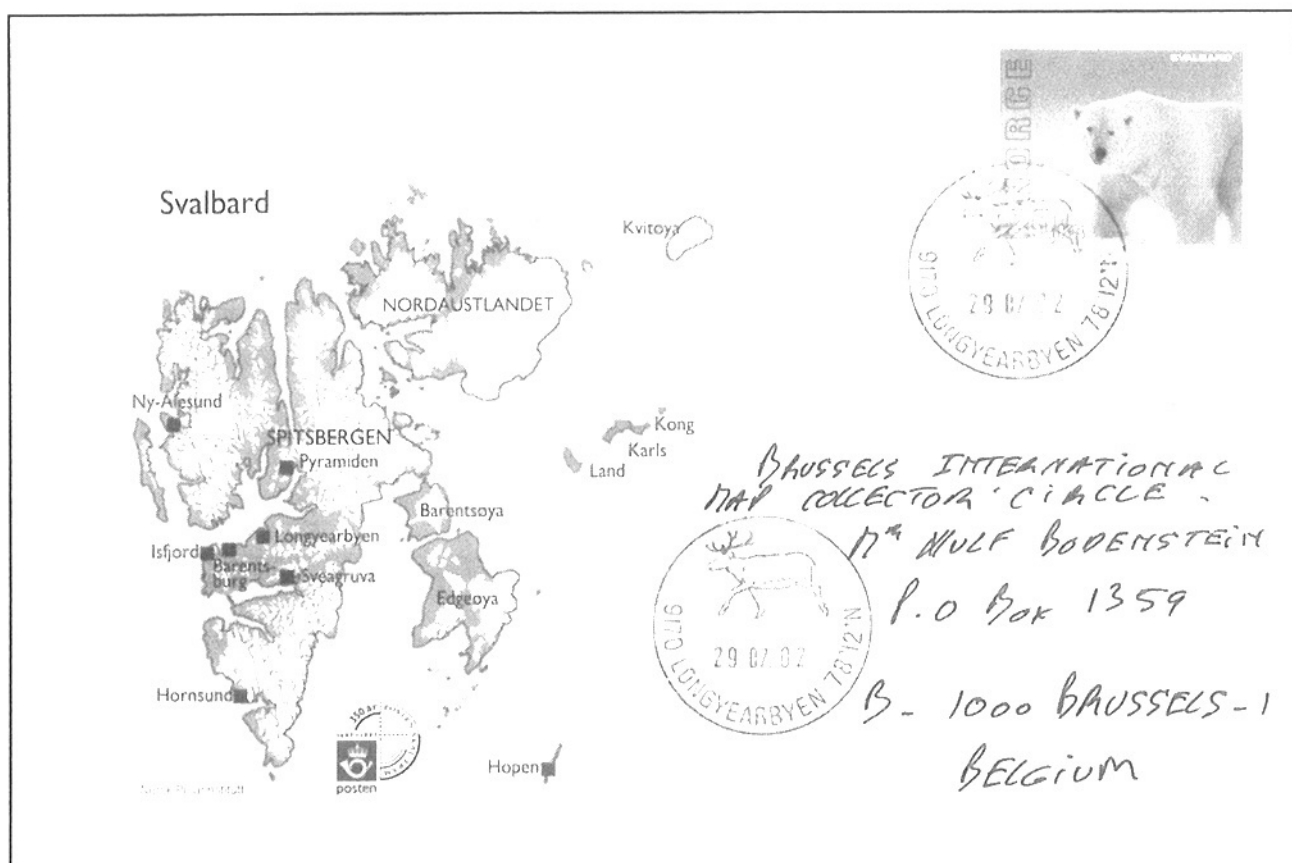
Editions A. et J. Picard, 82 rue Bonaparte, F-75006 Paris, ISBN 2-7084-0677-9 ; 53.00 €. You may also order through www.chapitre.com, very efficient. (Special thanks to Prof Gilles Palsky for having pointed out this new edition to me).

EXHIBITIONS :

- ♦ **Stewart Museum, Montreal, Canada, until 14 October, *France in the Americas : Cities of the King's Engineers in the New World in the 17th and 18th centuries*** ; Information from Eileen Meillon, Stewart Museum Montreal, Tel ++ 1-514-861-6701, Fax ++1-514-284-0123
- ♦ **Boston, Massachusetts, USA, until 26th October, *Maps of the Mediterranean***, over one hundred coloured manuscript sea charts of the principal ports of the Mediterranean, by an as yet unidentified French hydrographer, ca 1760. At Victoria Munroe Fine Art Gallery, 59, Beacon Street, Boston MA 02108, Tuesday to Sunday, 11.00 – 17.30 or by appointment. Info from ++1-617-52.30.661, Fax ++1-617-52.31.354, e-mail munroefineart@earthlink.net, www.munroefineart.com
N.B. the Catalogue and possibly some slides can be seen at our « Mare Nostrum » Conference – see BIMCC Programme in this issue.
- ♦ **Williamsburg, Virginia, USA, The DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum, until 1 December, *At the edge of the World : Mapping Scotland***. Information from Tel ++1-757-220-7724 or visit www.history.org/history/museums/dewitt_gallery.cfm



- ◆ **Château de Vincennes (Paris), Pavillon du Roi, 18 September to 10 November, *Du paysage à la Carte – Trois siècles de cartographie de la France*** (From Landscape to Maps – three centuries of cartography in France), presented by the History Services of the Armed Forces, Wednesday to Sunday 14 – 18.00, admission free.
- ◆ **Stadtmuseum Fembohaus, Nürnberg, 19 September to 24 November, *Auserlesene und allerneueste Landkarten – Der Homännische Verlag in Nürnberg 1702-1848*** (Selected and most recent maps – The Homann Publishers in Nürnberg 1702-1848). Burgstrasse 15, D-90402 Nürnberg, Tuesday – Sunday 10-17, Thursday 10-20 h. Tel. ++49-911-231.25.95., Fax ++49-911-231.25.96, www.museen.nuernberg.de/fembohaus/index_fembo.html
- ◆ **New York Historical Society, New York, 1 October to 15 January 2003, *Degrees of Latitude, Mapping North America***, at the NYHS, 2 West 77th Street at Central Park West. Tuesday to Sunday 10.00 – 17.00. Info : Tel ++1-212-873-3400 or www.nyhistory.org.
- ◆ **Gemeentearchief Amsterdam (Amsterdam City Archives), Amsteldijk 67, *Kaarten van Amsterdam 1866-2000*** (Maps of Amsterdam 1866-2000), 4 October – 1 December daily, 10.00 – 17.00.



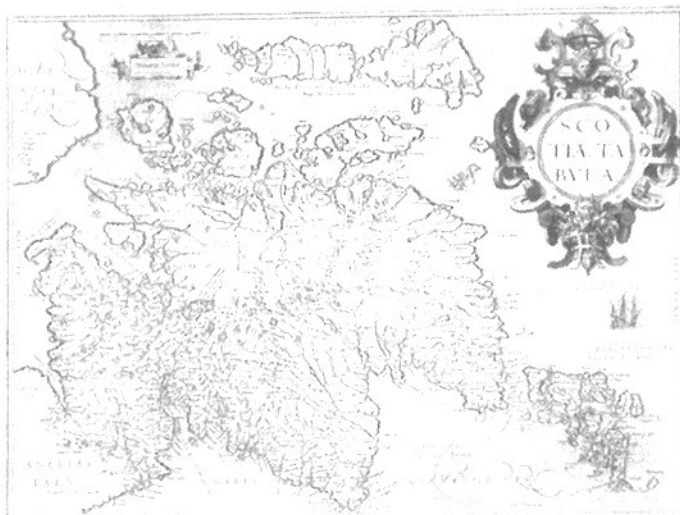
An interesting letter which our enterprising member, Dr Jean-Alain Cam sent us in July 2002 from Longyearbyen, part of the Spitzberg chain, in the Arctic Circle, which belongs to Norway. Dr Cam had the pleasure of reading our May 2002 Newsletter No 13, which was forwarded to him there.



- ♦ **Badische Landesbibliothek, Karlsruhe (Germany), 13 November – 1 March 2003**, *Der Rhein im Panorama, von 1825 bis heute* (Panoramas of the Rhine, from 1825 to today), Erbprinzenstrasse 15, D-76133 Karlsruhe, Monday, Tuesday, Friday 08.00 - 18.00, Thursday 08.00 - 20.00, Saturday 09.30 - 12.30. Information from Dr Martina Rebmann, Tel ++49-721/175.22.62, Fax ++49-721/175.23.33, or rebmann@blb-karlsruhe.de
- ♦ **Detroit Historical Museum, Detroit, USA, 7 December – 4 May 2003**, *France in the Americas : Cities of the King's Engineers in the New World in the 17th and 18th centuries* ; Detroit Historical Museum, 5401 Woodward Drive, Tel ++1-313-833-1805, or visit www.detroithistorical.org .

Abraham Ortelius,
SCOTIAE TABVLA,
Part of the exhibition
„Mapping Scotland”,
at the DeWitt Wallace
Decorative Arts Museum
in Williamsburg, Virginia, USA

(see News Item on page 22)



EVENTS :

- ♦ **Conferences on Cartography**, at the Royal Museum of Mariemont, B-7140 Morlanwelz, Tel ++32-64-21.21.93, Fax ++32-64-26.29.24, www.musee-mariemont.be, e-mail info@musee-mariemont.be (in French)
 - **21st September 15 h** : D. Belayew, *De la perception du paysage à la cartographie des lieux*
 - **28th September, 15h** : Marcel Watelet, *Les sources cartographiques : leur histoire, leur fabrication, leur lecture*
 - **5th October, 15h** : Y. Quairiaux, *La cartographie du Domaine de Mariemont*Admission 5 € for each lecture.
- ♦ **International Map Collectors' Society (IMCoS) : 21st International Symposium Amsterdam, The Netherlands :**
 - **Sunday 29th September** : 15-17 h, registration, guided tour and reception at the Amsterdam Historical Museum
 - **Monday, 30th September** : Presentations at the West-Indies House on Dutch Polder Maps, *The Maps are right but we must change the Land*, 09-17 h, incl. field trip to Leiden and Delft
 - **Tuesday, 1st October** : Presentations at the West-Indies House on *Discover the world, but your maps are all wrong*, 09-17 h, Speakers include Prof Dr A.A.Verveen, Prof Dr G. Schilder, Dr P. van der Krogt, and Mr J. Hubbard. A field trip to the Westfries Museum in Hoorn replaces the previously announced Rijksmuseum visit as its exhibition has been postponed beyond the dates of the venue.
 - **Wednesday, 2nd October** : Presentations at the West-Indies House under the title *We have found new lands and seas, now we need maps and charts*, by Mr G.J.D. Wildeman, Mr W.F.J. Moerzer Bruyns, Dr C.J. Zandvliet. Canal boat trip to the Netherlands Maritime



Museum for a visit to the Museum's exhibits. End of visit on individual basis. In the evening, cocktail and official IMCoS Dinner at the Hotel The Grand.

- **Thursday, 3rd October** : Optional tourist trip through Western Holland. Returning Saturday 5th October around 15.00 hrs at the airport or city of Amsterdam as required.

All further information from Hans D. Kok, Poelwaai 15, 2162 HA Lisse, The Netherlands, Tel/fax ++31-252-41.52.27, hanskok@introweb.nl

- ♦ **Cultural Week 2000, Halle, 1st October, Lecture 1600 – 2002 : 400 years VOC (United East India Company) and the contribution of Flemish cosmographers, cartographers and surveyors** by Johan Vanvolsem, covering Ortelius, Frisius, Mercator, Plancius, Coignet, Hondius, Verbergmoes, in Dutch with colour slides. Auditorium of the Town Hall of B-1500 Halle, Oudstrijderplein 18 at 20.00 ; admission free. Further information from Johan Vanvolsem, Tel ++32-(0)2/356.81.07.
- ♦ **Washington Map Society, 17th October**, meeting and lecture at 7 p.m. at the Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress, Washington D.C. ; presentation by Dr Ian Mumford (London) on *Milestones in Lithographed Cartography from 1800*. Info from Ralph Ehrenberg, tel ++1-703-538.09.48 or e-mail rehrenberg@aol.com
- ♦ **Comité Français de Cartographie (CFC), 22nd October**, (09.30), Annual Study Day organized by the Committee on the History of Cartography of the CFC, on the theme of *Par Terres et par Mers – Cartographie et Voyages* (Cartography and Travels by Land and by Sea), at the auditorium in the Passy Wing of the National Maritime Museum, Palais Chaillot, F-75116 Paris (access through the Trocadéro gardens, Boulevard Delessert). Admission free. The presentations by, among others, Hélène Richard, Hélène Blais, Francesc Relano, Bertrand Hirsch will focus on
 - Ethiopian travellers in Europe in the 14th and 15th centuries – cartography and exchange of knowledge,
 - Portuguese voyages to the New World in the 16th century,
 - the cartographic preparations for the 18th century voyages (La Perouse, d'Entrecasteaux),
 - Louis XV's journey to Soissons,
 - D'Après de Manneville and the cartography of the Indian Ocean,
 - the scientific cartography and travellers' cartography of the 19th century.
- ♦ **Warburg Lectures** in the history of cartography, convened by Tony Campbell (formerly Head of the British Library Map Library) and Catherine Delano Smith (Institute of Historical Research, University of London) ; all meetings held at 5 p.m. at the Warburg Institute, University of London, Woburn Square, London WC1H 0AB ; admission free, refreshments served. Enquiries ++44-(0)20/8346.5112 (Catherine Delano Smith) or t.campbell@ockendon.clara.co.uk (Tony Campbell).
 - **24 October**, Dr M. Charlesworth (University of Texas at Austin) : *The panoramic idea and mapping in Britain, 1740-1820*
 - **21 November**, P. Riviere (University of Oxford) : *The Schomburgk Line and the creation of 19th century British Guiana*
 - **5 December**, Brian L. Dunnigan (University of Michigan) : *Frontier iconographies : Mapping and imaging developing urban space on colonial North America*
 - **23 January 2003**, Prof M. Heffernan (University of Nottingham) : *From Russia with love ? A Tsarist map of France and the Paris 'Exposition Universelle' of 1900*
 - **13 February**, Dr J. Johns, Dr E. Savage-Smith (University of Oxford) : *The Book of Curiosities : A newly discovered series of medieval Islamic maps*
 - **20 March**, E. Proudfoot (St Andrews) : *John Geddy's map of St Andrews (1580) : a past and future framework*
 - **1 May**, René Tebel (University of Vienna) : *The significance of the ship image on early modern maps from the 10th to the 17th centuries*
 - **29 May**, Dr D. Connolly (University of Chicago) : *The performance of history in the*



itinerary map of Matthew Paris.

♦ **First Paris Map Fair, and Map Auction**

- **Friday 15th November** : Auction preview of maps, atlases, views at 6, Rue de la Grange-Batelière, F-75009 Paris, 14 – 17 h, premises of Me Paul Renaud, for the auction at Drouot-Richelieu on 25 November, and pre-Map Fair cocktail (19h) and dinner (20h) at the Salon Drouot, Hotel Ambassador, 16, Bd Haussmann, F-75009 Paris –details from www.map-fair.com or contact our Sponsor Miss Béatrice Loeb-Larocque, Tel. ++33-6-11-80-33-75 or info@loeb-larocque.com
- **Saturday 16th November** : **Paris Map Fair** held from 11 to 17 h at Hotel Ambassador, 16, Bd. Haussmann, F-75009 Paris – all further details from www.map-fair.com or contact Miss Béatrice Loeb-Larocque, Tel. ++33-6-11-80-33-75 or e-mail info@loeb-larocque.com , or paris@map-fair.com .

The BIMCC will have an information stand at this Fair, manned by multi-lingual staff .

- ♦ **5th European Map Fair Breda** : **Friday 22nd November** (11-21 h) and **Saturday 23rd November 2002** (11-17 h), Grote Kerk, Breda (NL) ; organized by the Stichting Historische Cartografie van de Nederlanden, held concurrently with an exhibition on « 750 Years Breda », for which a 96-page catalogue will be available. Admission 5.50 € ; further info from histocart@planet.nl or the Secretariat of the Foundation, Meysberg 12, NL 4861 BP Chaam, Tel ++31-(0)161/49.20.08, e-mail avegeraat@hotmail.com .
- ♦ **11th International Antiquarian Book Fair, Mechelen** : **13 – 15 December**
Cultuurcentrum Mechelen, Minderbroedergang ; Friday 13th :14.00-20.00 ; Saturday 14th : 11.00 – 18.00 ; Sunday 15th : 11.00 – 15.00. On Saturday between 11.00 and 13.00 : free valuation of maps , prints, old books. Info from Antiquariaat Garcia, Onder den Toren 6, B-2800 Mechelen, Tel ++32-(0)15/29.09.85, Fax ++32-(0)15/42.46.26
- ♦ **10th Miami International Map Fair, 1 – 2 February 2003**, information from the Historical Museum of Southern Florida, Miami - Dade Cultural Center, 101 West Flagler St., Miami FL 33130, USA ; Fax ++1-305-375.1609 or mapfair@historical-museum.org , or visit www.historical-museum.org .
- ♦ **20th International Conference on the History of Cartography**, Cambridge, Massachusetts and Portland, Maine (USA), **15 – 20 June 2003**. The ICHC event is the most important gathering of historians of cartography in the world. Its 3rd Conference was held in Brussels in 1969 (!). More information from www.ichc2003.org ; printed materials may be requested from info@ichc2003.org . Any questions may be directed to David Cobb, Harvard Map Collection,

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Aims and functions of the BIMCC

- 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 organises the following significant events :

- STUDY SESSION in February addressing practical aspects of map collecting, carto-bibliography, preservation techniques
- 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
- One EXCURSION to a Map Collection, between September and November
And every second year, in December :
- INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on a specific subject of the History of Cartography

Annual Membership: € 20, Students and under-25's: € 8

Members receive three Newsletters per annum and have free admission to most of the above events, except for a small contribution requested for special events, such as the Map Evening and the Conference (as announced in the Newsletter) - non-Members pay full rates).

The BIMCC currently publishes three Newsletters per year, in January, May and September. Please submit calendar items and other contributions by 20th December for the January edition to the Editor :

Brendan Sinnott, 35 Ave. Marquis de Villalobar, B-1150 BRUSSELS
Tel. ++ 32-2-770.40.83 (home), e-mail : brendan.sinnott@cec.eu.int

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Hogenberg's Belgica florens – Belgica destructa (1588)
A request for information

In the context of a current research project, Peter Meurer, the well-known German historian of cartography, member of our Circle, would like to hear from anyone who can help trace the location of single sheets of the above atlas. Only three complete volumes exist (in Breslau-Wroclaw, Marburg and Konstanz), but it is expected that separate leaves are in the possession of private collectors and Libraries.

Any hint in this direction would be much appreciated – please contact :

Dr Peter Meurer, Rochusstrasse 41, D-52525 Heinsberg, e-mail phm-hs@t-online.de

N.B. A review of P. Meurer's recent publication, *Corpus der älteren Germania-Karten* (an annotated catalogue of printed maps of the entire German region from early beginnings to ca. 1650) will appear in a forthcoming edition of the Newsletter.

The BIMCC is pleased to acknowledge sponsorship support from :

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Next auction: 1. – 12. Nov. 2002

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