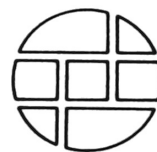


Mapline



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Mapping Illinois Two Hundred Years Ago

Gerald Danzer and James R. Akerman

In our last issue (Number 128, Spring 2018) Robert Holland presented a colorful summary of the early mapping of Illinois, focusing on two separately published maps of Illinois made by John Melish. Both were intended to be used in a general atlas he was then preparing. Their audience thus reached beyond people interested in the geography of the new state. The year of statehood also saw several other maps of parts of the state published to attract and inform prospective settlers and investors. The Newberry Library is fortunate to have splendid examples of both types of these additional detailed maps of Illinois made or published in 1818, the year of statehood. We focus here on maps promoting the “bounty lands” intended for veterans of the War of 1812, and maps of the “English Prairie,” a small tract of land in the southeastern part of the state that was briefly the home of an experimental agricultural settlement.

A Map of the Bounty Lands

The Illinois Military Tract, commonly known as the “bounty lands,” comprised more than 5 million acres shouldered between the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. It was one of three such tracts of lands in the new territories west of the Appalachian Mountains set aside for veterans of the War of 1812 as partial compensation for their services. Only 3,500,000 acres of the Illinois Military Tract were actually allocated to the veterans, who were issued receipts at the time of their enlistment

entitling them to claim their plots after the completion of the survey. At the time, the Military Tract was truly on the frontier of Euro-American settlement. When Illinois became a state in 1818 (the same year this map was published), most of its 36,000 non-indigenous inhabitants were concentrated in the extreme southern part of the state, between St. Louis, the Missouri Territory, and the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. It was hoped that the settlement of the military tract would help the American government secure its tenuous control over the Mississippi Valley to the north of St. Louis. In his guidebook published for potential emigrants to the bounty lands, *A Full Description of the Soil, Water, Timber, and Prairies of Each Lot, or Quarter Section of the Military Lands Between the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers* (Washington: P. Force, 1818), Nicholas Biddle Van Zandt acknowledges the uncertainties of this frontier territory:

The following brief sketch has been prepared, as well with a view to gratify public curiosity respecting a part of the country [about which] so various, contradictory, and uncertain reports are in circulation, east of the mountains, as to afford a correct and safe guide both to the emigrant and to the enterprising capitalist. It cannot be denied that a great proportion of the persons who have settled themselves in these . . . territories have expended large sums on the road, and have labored under very serious difficulties

Fig. 1. "A General Plat of the Military Lands between the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers from the Official Surveys... and drawn upon the scale of four miles to an inch by Nicholas Biddle Van Zandt" was published in Washington City in 1818. Given the scale, it is a large map, over four feet high and almost two and a half feet wide. It was folded into the book, *A Full Description of the Soil, Water, Timber, and Prairies...* The cartographer and the author of the book was recently a clerk in the General Land Office in Washington. The Newberry Library, Graff 4464.



arising from their ignorance of the geography of a country, (which had been previously only partially explored,) . . . Nor will the benefit of this sketch be confined to the emigrant—it is intended, and most earnestly desired, to relieve, as far as practicable, the anxious solicitude of the relatives and friends of the emigrant to understand whether the climate is or is not favourable to health; whether the soil is better or worse than that of the country which they have left behind; and if these be satisfactory, whether the markets, and the facilities of reaching them, afford a reasonable remuneration for their suffering and their toil. (p. iii)

There were actually two versions of the Military Lands map published that year, and Nicholas Biddle Van Zandt's commercial map appeared in Washington as a part of a book featuring a township-by-township description of the Military District. Both of these maps were based on the surveyor's reports of their work given in both cartographic and notebook formats. (The government map was reproduced in our last issue on p. 16.)

The General Land Office surveyed the Bounty Lands between 1815 and 1822. This process began with the careful measurement of a north-south line, or principal meridian—in this case the Fourth Principal Meridian—and an east-west base line orthogonal to it. The tract was then subdivided into townships each identified by their distance either east or west of the principal meridian and north or south of the base line. A township was then subdivided by surveyors into thirty-six one square-mile sections (640 acres each). Sections could then be further subdivided for granting or sale as half-sections (320 acres), quarter-sections (160 acres), quarter-quarter sections (40 acres), or some combination thereof. The War Department began issuing warrants to veterans in 1817 that allowed them to claim quarter-sections within the tract randomly selected by the government. However, most veterans never actually occupied their claims, but instead sold their warrants to land speculators. Thus, settlement of much of the tract was initially slow. Only 13,000 settlers had arrived by 1830, but land sales in the Mid-

west started booming at that time. The General Land Office established a district office in Quincy to handle renewed demand in the military tract, and sales of the former bounty lands reached a peak of more than a half-million acres in 1836.

Other maps, in manuscript, detailed the geography of smaller parcels for sale by the General Land Office. These usually covered one particular township of thirty-six sections and were copied from the surveyor's original maps, a copy of which was sent to the particular land office that was near the site. Other copies of these surveyor's maps were sent to a regional office and to the central office in Washington. These original maps may still be examined today in the Illinois State Archives.

Reading Van Zandt's Map

The essence of the map may be summed up in the tension between the major rivers that provide the boundaries for the tract and the section lines that divide the land by a rigid grid. The former curving, natural lines are reinforced by a string of small mountainous symbols that suggest the bluffs that separate the flood plains along the rivers from the prairie uplands beyond. Lakes, swamps, "sloos," "overflowed" areas, and bottomland water courses, along with the line of bluffs, enlarge the tract's riverine boundaries. A reader gets the impression that the land naturally separates into uplands and lowlands.

The map is split roughly down the middle by the Fourth Principal Meridian that starts at the mouth of the Illinois River and runs due north. Less obvious is the base line that runs east and west 72 miles north of the mouth of the Illinois River, again roughly dividing the tract into north and south halves. These two key lines divide the Military District into townships measured six miles by six miles and numbered north, south, east, or west. Then, we subdivide them into 36 square-mile sections, each of which is numbered on the map.

A Map of the English Prairie

English Prairie was a short-lived semi-utopian agricultural community established in 1817-18 in Edwards



Fig. 2. The cartouche for the Van Zandt map tells a story in one moving picture. It illustrates a patriot's reward and a pioneer's dream. The soldier in the engraving receives a land warrant in Illinois from Columbia herself. A young son proudly carries his father's sword while his mother points the way to the West. The munitions will be left behind on the ground as the family journeys to their new farm. Van Zandt's book repeats the promise: "a small farm, well cultivated, and in the vicinity of the prairie...assures the most speedy and the most certain source of wealth" (p. 27).

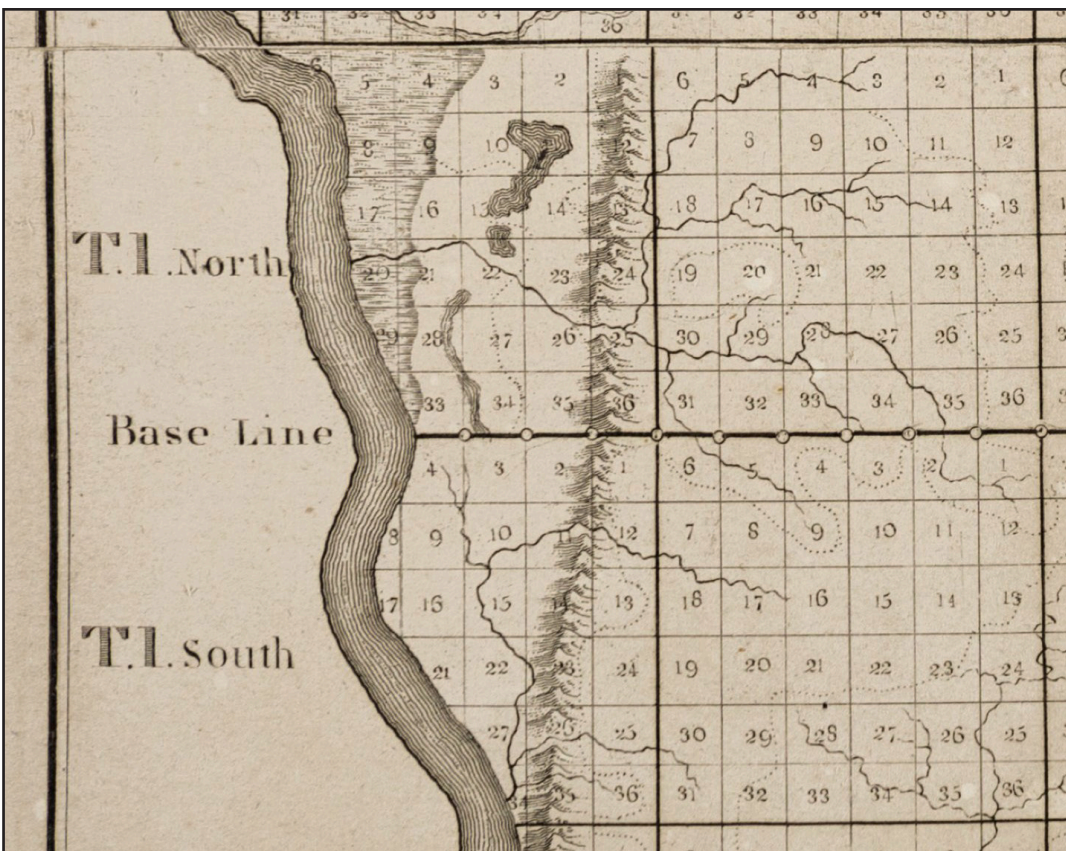


Fig. 3. This detail shows an enlarged portion of the Van Zandt map. The location, on the Mississippi River at the Beardstown Base Line, is on the opposite side of Illinois from the section map drawn by Elias Pym Fordham. The boundary between the prairie and the woodlands can be seen with the faint dotted lines. The bonus lands were assigned to individuals by lot. Thus a careful reading of the map would be necessary to find out the nature of each quarter section. The best land for a pioneer settler would include both prairie lands for grazing livestock and woodlands to secure lumber for construction of buildings and fences as well as fuel needed for cooking and heating. Lands along water-courses were generally forested.

County (around present-day Albion) by sheep-breeders and agricultural reformers Morris Birkbeck and George Flower. Birkbeck was a Quaker who bridled at the restrictions placed on his religious practice by the established Church of England. Like many European colonizers before him, he saw America as an ideal place to escape from religious constraints. The fertile and well-watered lands of the Wabash Valley of southern Illinois and Indiana seem to have been particularly attractive to religious and economic reformers. A group of German Lutheran dissenters established New Harmony just across the Wabash River in 1814. The social and economic reformer Robert Owen bought the town and set about transforming it into a socialist industrial community that attracted international attention. English Prairie, too, enjoyed brief fame, however exaggerated its actual success. Birkbeck himself published several works promoting his colony in multiple editions published between 1817 and 1823. (Before his death in 1825, while returning from a visit to New Harmony, he was also active in preserving Illinois's status as a free state.) The first promotional publication, Birkbeck's account of his travels to English Prairie, *Notes on a journey in America, from the coast of Virginia to the territory of Illinois, with proposals for the establishment of a colony of English, from Norfolk, Virginia to Illinois*, was published in Philadelphia in 1817, alas without maps. *Letters from Illinois*, written after his arrival and published in 1818, included two maps by the renowned cartographer John Melish. The first traces Birkbeck's route from Norfolk to English Prairie; the second is a small regional map showing the site of the English Prairie and its situation in the greater Wabash Valley from the Ohio River to Vincennes, Indiana.

We have chosen to reproduce here, however, a map of the English Prairie that is unique to the Newberry. It is attached to a manuscript, *Extracts from letters written, on a journey to the western parts of the United States, and during a residence in the Illinois Territory*, written by Elias Pym Fordham, nephew by marriage to George Flower, and co-founder of the English Prairie. Fordham evidently compiled these letters in late 1818, with the intention of publishing them, like Birkbeck, to recruit settlers to the colony. It was edited and published in the twentieth century, before it entered The

Newberry's collections, by Frederic Austin Ogg and under the title *Personal Narrative of Travels in Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, and of a Residence in the Illinois Territory*. The manuscript remained in the family until it was bought by the great Newberry Library patron Edward Ayer, who gave it to the Newberry in 1911. The manuscript also includes maps of Pittsburgh and Cincinnati, through which Fordham passed on his journey, but the map of English Prairie is of special interest to us because it offers the only details of the geography of the area during the existence of the colony. The basic information on this map is undoubtedly taken from the official plat of survey submitted to the General Land Office by the surveyor. Fordham added to it his personal knowledge from his tenure in the area in 1817 and 1818.

Birkbeck and Flower were sufficiently settled in 1818 to prompt the foundation of two towns, Wanborough (by Birkbeck) and Albion (by Flower). The two men soon had a falling out over a personal matter, even as several hundred colonists from Britain and elsewhere were drawn to the area by Birkbeck's successful publicity. When Birkbeck died in 1825, the colony effectively dissolved. Many of his followers moved to New Harmony, while Flower's colony persists in the modern town of Albion.

Reading Elias Pym Fordham's Map

"Map of Range X Township II East of the 3rd Meridian" uses one of the technical titles for the township containing the English Prairie. Comparing this title with Nicolas Biddle Van Zandt's "General Plat of the Military Lands," note that they both use the Congressional System of township and range lines, but employ different principal meridians and base lines. "The English Farmer" specifies the third meridian in his title while Van Zandt labels his principal meridian as number four and provides the latitude and longitude for its point of origin. Beneath the map the farmer explains the size of each section (640 acres) and gives the price as \$2 paid in four annual installments, with a discount of 6% for cash.

The key to the natural geography, shown on both maps, also divides the land into forested areas or

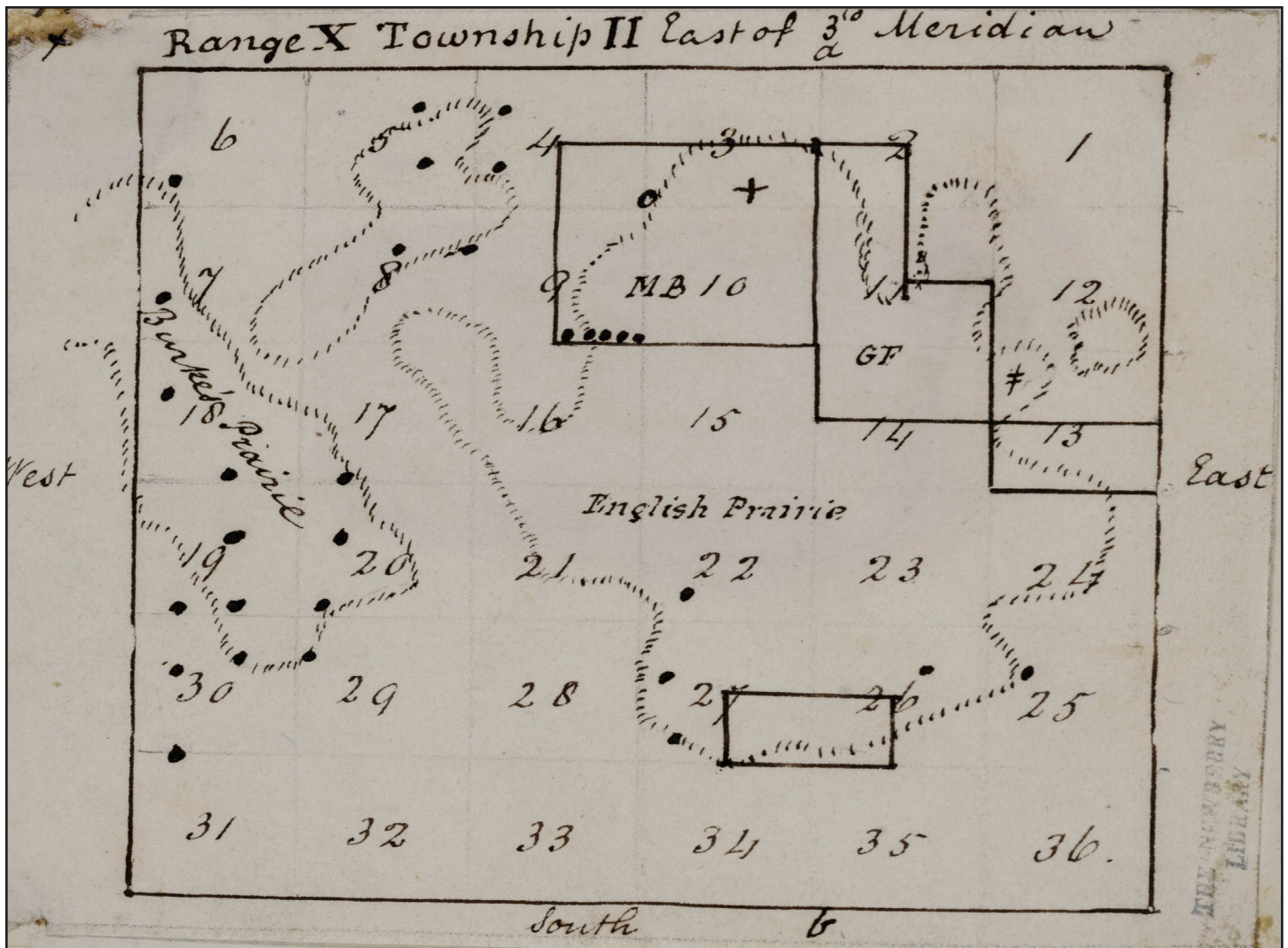


Fig. 4. This map from Pym's manuscript is also reproduced in *Personal Narrative of Travels in Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, and of a Residence in the Illinois Territory* (Cleveland: The Arthur H. Clark Company, 1906), p. 113. The Newberry Library, VAULT Ayer MS 289 map 2.

groves and prairie lands. Two prairies are named on the township map: English Prairie and Burke's Prairie respectively, with smaller patches of grassland that are indicated but not named in sections 5 and 8. Almost all of the larger prairies in Illinois received names during the pioneer period, most of which are given in Frederick Gerhard's *Illinois As It Is* (1857).

Note how the grid formed by the numbered sections provides a location aid for locating parcels on the ground, especially those claimed by Morris Birkbeck and George Farmer. The '+' on Birkbeck's land indicates the site of his future house while the '0' shows his hunting cabin's location. A string of future cottages

is marked by the dots in section 9. Although it is not traced on the map, readers are assured that "a creek runs through it and there are a dozen branches that are filled by every shower of rain." The dots on the map do not indicate actual settlers' cabins, but their projected sites using claims on Land Office records entered by "backwoodsmen."

The text also takes care to locate this particular township in the wider world by indicating that the Little Wabash River, "a fine mill stream," is six miles west of the English Prairie and the "Big Wabash," a navigable river, is a short distance to the east. The smaller stream leads northward to a trail that later developed

into the route for the National Road and Interstate 70. The Big Wabash, the author projects, will soon be connected to the Miami River of the North (the Maumee) by a canal, thus providing water access to Lake Erie and the Great Lakes and by canals then under construction to the Atlantic Ocean by way of either the Hudson or the St. Lawrence Rivers. (Work on what became the Miami and Erie Canal began in 1827. The completed canal was open to traffic in 1843.) All of these possible routes to the world ocean were currently improved by the use of steamboats, reducing the total travel time from England to the English Prairie to two months.

Going Further

Readers who wish to study these early Illinois maps up close would do well to consult the following volumes: Charles Boewe, *Prairie Albion: An English Settlement in Illinois* (1962); Douglas R. McManis, *The Initial Evaluation and Utilization of the Illinois Prairies, 1815-1840* (1964); and James E. Davis, *Frontier Illinois* (1998). On the details for the development of the Illinois Military Tract, consult Christine Rose, *Military Bounty Land, 1776-1855* (2011); Payson Jackson Treat, *The National Land System, 1785-1820* (reprinted 1967); Paul W. Gates, *History of Public Land Law Development* (1968); and Theodore L. Carlson, *The Illinois Military Tract: A Study of Land Occupation, Utilization, and Tenure* (1951).

Who Was Illinois' First Governor?

Mary McMichael Ritzlin

To this (trick) question, many would answer Shadrach Bond (1818-1822), or perhaps the first territorial governor, Ninian Edwards (1809-1818). But there are other possible answers. After the French and Indian War, France ceded its possessions in North America to Great Britain, including lands west to the Mississippi River and north of the Ohio, described as the Illinois Country.

During the Revolution, Virginia Governor Patrick Henry sent Colonel George Rogers Clark with a force of 150 men to expel the British from Kaskaskia and other strongholds. Clark and his men took Kaskaskia on July 4, 1778. The Virginians considered Illinois to be their western-most county, and the Virginia House of Delegates appointed Captain John Todd as governor of the County of Illinois, also in 1778.

So, who was Illinois' first governor? Bond? Edwards? Todd? Or perhaps, ever so briefly, Patrick Henry himself?

Holzheimer Fellow Presents Research on Amazon Maps

Wilbert Stroeve

Dr. Carme Montaner presented her paper, "18th Century Missionary Maps in the Amazon Basin: The Case of the Ocopa Monastery in Peru" at the 29th "Maps & America" lecture on April 26, 2018 at the American Geographical Society Library on the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee campus. Dr. Montaner is the Head of the Unitat Cartoteca de Catalunya, Institut Cartogràfic i Geològic de Catalunya, in Barcelona. This lecture series is supported by an endowment from Arthur and Janet Holzheimer.

In this talk, Dr. Montaner recounted how on a trip to Peru she visited (at first, by chance) the Santa Rosa de Ocopa monastery, where Franciscan cartographers were active in the 18th and 19th centuries. Ocopa is

near Huancayo, on the eastern side of the Andes. This monastery was a center for Spanish, Jesuit and, later, Franciscan activities.

Dr. Montaner explained that local products needed to be shipped to Spain, and the “easiest” route would be to go east into the Amazon basin and down the Amazon River. But little, if anything, was known about the interior of South America, and most maps indicated “unknown parts” (as illustrated in the 1750 map by d’Anville). Consequently, the monastery was given the task to map the area north to approximately present-day Iquitos, then near Manaus, south to Ji-Paraná, and back to Ocopa. Not only were the Ucayali and Hualaga Rivers and their tributaries explored, but Ocopa’s domain also included the regions around Tarija in Bolivia, Chillan and the island of Chiloé in Chile, and Maynas in Peru/Brazil. Also, the first map of the Tahitian islands was produced in 1772 by an Ocopa friar, four years before Captain Cook visited them.

Ocopa was founded in 1725 and declared a Propaganda Fide Collegium in 1758 to expand the Catholic faith and direct the Spanish explorations, accompanied sometimes by the Spanish Army, from 1752-1824. With the expulsion of the Jesuits in 1767, the Franciscans took over. To complicate things even further, the treaties of Paris in 1750 and San Ildefonso in 1777 split South America between Spanish and Portuguese interests. Suddenly the route to the Atlantic via the Amazon was no longer tenable, and it wasn’t clear just where exactly the boundary would lie when it came to Spanish explorations in the basin.

While missionaries were sent out to document these areas, it wasn’t until the cartographer Padre José Amich Aranda at Ocopa that their readings were corrected using more rigorous standards. For instance, he based them on El Hierro Prime Meridian and compass measurements and, as a result, he produced the first map of the Peruvian section of the Amazon basin in 1767, as well as the map of Tahiti in 1772.

Succeeding Amich was Manuel Sobreviela Álvarez, who became the Padre Guardian of Ocopa from 1787 to 1796. He documented and mapped a route from Ocopa to San Joaquín de Omagua in 1791. Then came Padre Alcántara with his map of 1822. None of the Franciscan maps can be found in Ocopa, as all map



Former Holzheimer Fellow Dr. Carme Montaner.

products were sent to Spain. William Faden’s map of South America in 1807 was partially based on those by Amich, Sobreviela, and Alcántara. Furthermore, Dr. Montaner mentioned briefly that some of Sobreviela Álvarez’s maps were used to help settle a border dispute between Peru and Bolivia in 1906.

For those Chicago Map Society members who couldn’t go all the way to Milwaukee, Dr. Montaner gave a similar presentation at the April Chicago Map Society meeting at the Newberry Library. She was also the Arthur and Janet Holzheimer Fellow in the History of Cartography at The Newberry in spring 2018.



Photo courtesy of Edward H. Dahl.

Remembering Barbara McCorkle

Edward H. Dahl

This article first appeared in Issue 101 (Spring 2018) of The Portolan, the journal of the Washington Map Society. Mapline has permission to reprint in its entirety.

The historical maps community lost a dear friend with the death on 1 November 2017 of Barbara Backus McCorkle, in Lawrence, Kansas, at the age of 97. Many readers of *The Portolan* will know her because of her long involvement in the Society for the History of Discoveries, her attendance at the International Conferences of the History of Cartography, her dozen years as a map curator at Yale University, and her important map-related publications.

Barbara was born on 9 September 1920 in New York City and spent her childhood, through high school, in New Haven, Connecticut. She received her B.A., *cum laude*, from Hunter College, New York City, in 1942 (Phi Beta Kappa), and, in her mid-40s, in 1968, earned her M.L.S. from Emporia State Teachers College (now Kansas State University at Emporia). Throughout the years from 1950 to 1970, she continued her education by completing courses in geology, English literature, Russian language and literature, and Polish language at the University of Kansas.

Her library career began in 1968 at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, and later included three years at Purdue University. It was as a map curator at Yale

University from 1981 to 1993 that she made her mark, a period that was recognized by the Honors Award of the Map and Geography Round Table (MARGRET), American Library Association in 2000 for outstanding lifetime achievement and major contributions to map librarianship.

I think Barbara would agree that her most important publication was *New England in Early Printed Maps, 1513 to 1800: An Illustrated Carto-Bibliography*, published by The John Carter Brown Library in 2001, when she was 81. This landmark work pulled together for the first time a description of the known printed maps of the New England region and became one of the essential building blocks for an understanding of the history of the mapping of this area. Her work showed the progressive shaping of New England, from a vaguely described region in the earliest European maps of the New World, to its formal creation by John Smith in 1616, to highly detailed maps of a region still defined today. Barbara's last publication, *A Carto-Bibliography of the Maps in Eighteenth-Century British and American Geography Books*, was published on the Web in 2009, when she was 89.

Barbara's other publications include a catalogue, titled *America Emergent*, to accompany an exhibition of maps and atlases in honor of Alexander O. Viator (her predecessor at Yale); articles in *The Map Collector*, *Mercator's World*, and *Meridian*; a major chapter in *Mapping Boston* (1999); an index to *Map Collector's Circle*; and many shorter articles, book reviews and conference and other reports. Although she was always enthusiastic and positive about her work as a map curator, her retirement from Yale University in 1993 must have been a liberating event in some sense since the rate of her publications rose markedly thereafter.

Modest as always about her professional achievements, Barbara once wrote in an e-mail: "In my opinion, my greatest accomplishment is to have contributed six wonderful children to the world!"

Edward H. Dahl is a former Early Cartography Specialist at the Library and Archives of Canada.

Studying Asian Maps: An Interview with Newberry Scholar-in-Residence Qin Ying

D. Bradford Hunt, The Newberry
(VP of Research and Academic Programs)

Qin Ying is an Associate Professor of History in the College of Historical Culture and Tourism at Southwest Minzu University, Chengdu, China. She spent the 2017-18 academic year as a Scholar-in-Residence at The Newberry. Her research was sponsored by the China Scholarship Council Fund. During her stay, Qin Ying interacted regularly with the Smith Center for the History of Cartography and its community of scholars. She sat down with D. Bradford Hunt and shared some highlights from her time researching the collections.

D. Bradford Hunt (DH): What are you working on at The Newberry?

Qin Ying (QY): My area of study is Chinese historical geography, and my research plan as a Scholar-In-Residence is to study antique maps of China's southwest, and to understand their spread abroad, based on the Newberry Library's collections and those at other libraries. I am interested in the international cultural interflow of cartographic history, especially the idea of how cartographic traditions spread across cultures and across other parts of the world. For instance, the image of China's southwest gets transferred in various ways from Chinese maps and atlases to Catholic missionaries' maps and atlases over time. I am also conducting textual research in catalogs, correspondence, and reports.

DH: Tell us about your work in the in the history of Chinese cartography. What contributions have you made to scholarship in China?

QY: My most important contribution involves a cultural understanding of the depiction of Mahu Lake and Xing Xihuai Lake on maps and atlases of the Ming-Qing dynasties (1368-1911). In the map of Si-

chuan Province collected in the atlas of Guang Yu Tu (廣輿圖), edited by Luo Hongxian (1504-1564), Mahu (Horse) Lake was drawn far larger than it is in reality. The lake appeared almost the same size as the Dongting Lake in Huguang Province and Poyang Lake in Jiangxi Province, the distinctive lakes of Yangtze River on the general map of China. The depiction of Mahu Lake is an important case study in the international cultural interflow of cartographic history. After a textual study, I traced the large size of Mahu Lake to a famous map of Yu Di Tu (輿地圖), drawn by Zhu Sibei (1273-1333) and engraved on the wall of Sanhua Yuan in Shangqing Gong (Taoist temple), Guixi County, Jiangxi Province. I argue that Zhu drew a huge Mahu Lake for cultural reasons, indicating the importance of the Mahu region, the indigenous people Mahu Man, and the strategic land-ways and waterways of the Mahu River during the Yuan dynasty. Further, Zhu perhaps wanted to direct the place of the Yellow River's origins at Mahu Lake. The phenomenon of a huge Mahu Lake supports the idea that geographers from many generations wanted to discover the fountainheads of Yangtze River and Yellow Rivers, at least during the Yuan-Ming Dynasties (1271-1644).

The way Mahu Lake is drawn can tell us much about the lineage of other Chinese maps. In many cases, the shape of Mahu Lake is badly drawn, creating a marker for understanding its influence on later maps with similarly distorted features. The wrong shape becomes a distinctive symbol in Chinese cartographic history of the 16th-19th centuries, including on Jesuit maps and atlases of China in 16th-18th centuries, as well as Korean traditional historical maps of China (中國圖) in the early half of 19th century. Through this "DNA," including map errors, we can identify the cartographic material absorbed from Chinese maps and how they spread.

DH: What discoveries have you made here?

QY: When I first arrived, I learned about efforts by Americans in the early 20th century to collect Asian maps. Dr. Berthold Laufer, a German-American Sinologist (1874 – 1934), wrote a publication called, *Descriptive Account of the Collection of Chinese, Ti-*



Qin Ying explores the rich map holdings in The Newberry's Special Collections.

betan, Mongol, and Japanese Books in the Newberry Library (1913). Laufer finished the third of his four Far East expeditions (1908-1910) around China's Tibetan (Xizang) plateau with financial support from Mrs. Isabella Blackstone and organized by the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago. During this expedition, Laufer gathered representative collections of Chinese works for the Newberry Library and the John Crerar Library on religion, philosophy, history, belles-lettres, philology, and art. In 1943, The Newberry transferred much of the material to the University of Chicago, while the Crerar material went to the Library of Congress in 1928. I have been following clues from this material in The Newberry's archives about Laufer's interaction with the library. In my opinion, they help

show that The Newberry was part of a transitional moment in East Asiatic collecting in the United States, when conventional Sinology shifted more towards Chinese Studies.

DH: Who did you work with here at The Newberry and in Chicago?

QY: I am fortunate to have had opportunities to learn from several important scholars and specialists in the US, including Professor Laura Hostetler of the University of Illinois at Chicago, whose research field involves the history of the early Qing dynasty. She kindly introduced me around the University of Chicago's library and its East Asian collections. Also, Dr. James



Fig. 5. Qin Ying found a treasure trove of maps related to her research. One such example is Martino Martini's map of Chinese provinces, *De Bello Tartarico Historia: In Quâ Quo Pacto Tartari Hac Nostrâ Aetate Sinicum Imperium Inuaserint, ac Ferè Totum Occuparint, Narratur; Eorumque Mores Breuiter Describuntur* (1655). The Newberry Library, Wing ZP 646 .J2635.

Akerman of The Newberry's Smith Center for the History of Cartography connected me with the MacLean Collection of Asian Art Museum (Lake Forest, IL), one of the richest private collections of Asian maps in the U.S. I was a fellow for one week at the MacLean Collection, where the Curator, Dr. Richard Pegg, and Dr. Yin Tongyun helped me with maps of China's southwest. Dr. Akerman also introduced me to the curators at the American Geographical Society Library at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, including Dr. Marcy M. Bidney and Dr. Jovanka Ristic, who helped me with Tibetan archives and maps of China.

At The Newberry, I have had the good fortune to work with yourself, Dr. Akerman, Will Hansen, Dr. Gerald Danzer, Arthur Holzheimer, Dr. Kara Johnson, and Dr. Peter Nekola. I am grateful for their friendship. I hope more Chinese scholars will come and learn from The Newberry, and that you all will come and visit China, to see our rich Chinese and Western map collections, especially at the National Library of China.

SMITH CENTER NEWS

Teachers and Librarians Participate in NEH-Sponsored Mapping Seminar

Matthew Clarke and Kara Johnson

This summer, Newberry Library hosted a four-week summer seminar for K-12 school teachers, *Reading Material Maps in the Digital Age*. Supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities and co-directed by Dr. James Akerman and Dr. Peter Nekola, this seminar focused on current scholarship in the field of cartography, as well as the practice of critically reading original map documents.

The Newberry Library's Matthew Clarke (Communications Coordinator) and Kara Johnson (Manager of Teacher and Student Programs) recently sat down with three participants of this seminar, who shared some highlights from their time in residence at The Newberry: Kathryn Person, an AP Microeconomics and AP Human Geography teacher at Walter Payton College Preparatory High School (Chicago, IL); Katie Holden, an Instructional Technology Specialist for the Madison County School District (Ridgeland, MS); and Chicago native Andres (Andy) Ortega, who teaches kindergarten in the Miami-Dade Public Schools (Miami, FL). The following excerpts from the interview have been edited for clarity.

Matthew Clarke (MC): Could you tell us about your upcoming research presentations?

Katie Holden (KH): My broad topic is travel - railroad travel, car travel - but there's a specific person I want to focus on . . . This guy [Alfred Edward Mathews (1831-1874)] walked by foot from Alabama to Texas to Chicago, but his story is really cool. He was also an artist and a mapmaker. It was right before the Civil War, so we're not talking paved roads. He got really sick and had to stay in Chicago.

Kara Johnson (KJ): How did you come across this person?

KH: Somewhere while searching [The Newberry's collections]. The title is *An Interesting Narrative [An Interesting Narrative; Being a Journal of the Flight of Alfred E. Mathews]*. He was a Union sympathizer living in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, and basically they said he would have to join a regiment down here - they were going to fine him - and he was a school teacher. So, on December 28th, he said I took a walk every morning, and I decided to walk a little further.

I was fascinated and sat in the Newberry's reading room and read the small book in its entirety. I came back and read it again and took more detailed notes about his travels.

MC: That's how he got started? That's like Forrest Gump!

Kathryn Person (KP): My presentation is actually going to be an activity: I'm going to split the Near North Side into smaller quadrants, and then give [the class] sources and ask, "What is where? Why there, and why care?" I want to understand the human geography of the near North Side - so, this particular neighborhood. [Human Geography examines the interactions between humans and their environments.] I teach at Payton, which is three blocks from The Newberry. What's interesting, or what I want to make interesting to my students, is that we can look at this particular neighborhood as multi-layered in terms of history but also in terms of why things are located where they are . . . My goal in this project was to try to find some resources at the Newberry that could help me explain this through maps and through postcards or pictures and books. The Newberry has [Harvey Warren] Zorbaugh's *The Gold Coast and the Slum* [1944], and Ernest Burgess's original copy of *The City* [1925], where he drew his first concentric ring map, which we study in this Human Geography class. [Burgess's concentric zone model of urban development suggests that cities develop outward in rings from a central business district, to zones of factories, working class tenements, middle class neighborhoods, and affluent commuter areas.]



Top Left: Seminar participants Andy Ortega (left) and Aidan Gillespie (Chicago, IL) study a map in a workshop at the Newberry Library's NEH seminar, Reading Material Maps.

Below: Katie Holden (right) works on a group activity with fellow participants Rebecca Fawns of Glendive, Montana (left) and Ryan Reid of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (center).

Photos courtesy of Catherine Gass, The Newberry.



Andres Ortega (AO): I'm focused on working with five and six year old minds, so it's going to be a little bit different. Mine is going to focus on landmarks, not only statewide but also countrywide. I want them to have a broader understanding of other things that there are to see out there. My kids know their home country - Venezuela, Cuba, Mexico - or they know Orlando, because that's nearby, or New York, because they have family from New York . . . So whenever I show them buildings, they assume it's New York. When I show them buildings from Chicago - all my students know I'm from Chicago - I always make sure to tell them that, because they buy me gifts sometimes, and I don't want any Miami stuff. [Laughter.] I just like to show them buildings, or pictures of the skyline. And even when we draw pictures of buildings, I use the Sears [Willis] Tower (I still call it the Sears Tower) as an example. So mine is going to focus on things they can see in cities. There's more than Miami and Florida. There's St. Augustine. There's St. Pete's, there's Tallahassee, there's Jacksonville. . . That's what I would like to focus on: that there are fun places, and interesting things to see.

KJ: I'm curious to hear your thoughts on the utility of the material map and the digital map in the classroom.

AO: [My classroom has a globe], a pulldown of the USA map, the Florida map, and the world map. I use them as a comparison: "This is a globe, and if we open, or cut it, and laid it flat, this is how it would look." And they always "ooh" and "ahh" when I pull [a map] down. They see the colors, and they see the patterns, and I spend more time on it than - I don't want to say "supposed to" - what they say we should spend on it, because I don't like rushing through it. I want them to absorb it more.

KP: I know Jim [Akerman, Co-Director] focuses on the scale of the map, and tells us "the real size of this map is [for example] two by three feet," and that's something that makes an impression on students, or could make an impression on students. The issue is that while I can personally take students here [to The Newberry], Katie's not going to be able to take stu-

dents to see some of the maps that she got [to see]. But does that mean I shouldn't use the photograph I took of the map in the Reading Room? No, because it's better to have it in front of them, than to not have it in front of them. I hate to swing the pendulum the other way and say, "Oh, the digital isn't worth anything." They just are doing different things . . .

KH: I always thought about it like - this is probably a really bad analogy - like a long-distance relationship, or listening to music. Even with a singer I really like, sure I love to listen to that song, but how much better is it seeing that person live?

KP: But should you just not listen to the song unless Johnny Cash can sing it to you? [Laughter.] That would be sad, because you would just never listen to the song!

KH: But I think the relatability is also important. I remember certain students being like, "Oh my gosh, I didn't realize that this was so close to this, or that this was so far away from this," until you actually look at a physical map, whether in a textbook, or a map hanging in the classroom.

KJ: I wanted to ask each of you what your biggest take-away from the seminar was.

KP: To remember to go [to The Newberry]. There's no reason why I can't go here. It seems like there's so much here, you just don't know where to start . . . The problem with the internet is that it's iterative, so kids do a Google image search and keep getting the same things, whereas The Newberry may have things that aren't going to show up in a Google search. Even to push myself to go to a library's digital collections, or to remember to go to the Library of Congress, or remember to push myself to go to the academic [resources], rather than do the quick, "this image is good enough to analyze," but give them things that are novel, that they're not going to see somewhere else, and to ask them to do something challenging but doable, as we say at my school.

KH: I think I probably stole this from Pete [Nekola, Co-Director], or Jim, or something we read, but something I'd never deeply thought about was though I always think of maps as things people created, I never thought about how maps have created me, or influenced me. I know we talked about this, but it's so true: there are certain places I never would have gone to, and I might not be the person I am had I not travelled to these places . . . I'm very independent, and headstrong, and I want to make those choices and decisions on my own, and maps have very much influenced that - where I've chosen to go, and where I've chosen not to go - so that was a huge thing for me.

AO: I would say my biggest takeaway was being reminded of my continuing love of paper maps, not only current maps but also the past maps, too. In terms of teaching, I can always mix maps in with any subject. You can use them with science, reading, and math. But most of all I want to instill in my students the appreciation for maps, and maybe they'll appreciate that we're just little beings in a big, big place, and that there's a lot to see and to do out there, and maybe they'll want to do it.

Going Further

The Smith Center is pleased to announce another NEH-sponsored seminar for summer 2019. Also titled *Material Maps in the Digital Age* and led once again by Dr. James Akerman and Dr. Peter Nekola, this four-week program will be geared toward college and university faculty.

Map Talks at the Society for the History of Discoveries

David Buisseret

When the Society for the History of Discoveries held its annual meeting in Denver (September 20-23, 2018), several of the talks concerned cartographic subjects; here we give brief summaries of their contents, in the form of conference abstracts.

Dr. Mirela Altic (former Fellow of the Smith Center) spoke on the delineation of gold-fields on a Jesuit map:

A recently discovered Jesuit map, created just before the military inspection of northern New Spain carried out by Pedro de Rivera (c. 1725), provides us with a detailed presentation of the royal mines, and with their exact position in relation to the missions and *presidios*. The inclusion of military and economic information in a missionary map reflects the close connection of these issues. The increasingly frequent uprisings of the native people, who were forced to work in the royal mines, and the need for their military control, required closer relations between the Jesuits and military authorities. That led to an intensified exchange of knowledge and direct cooperation in mapping activities. Jesuit (and later Franciscan) missionary maps of New Spain contained more and more military information, while military maps of the same region provided more detailed information on missionary activities.

Prof. Richard Francaviglia, "Demystifying Desolation: a Cartographic History of the Atacama Desert, 1700-1900":

This presentation examined eighteenth- and nineteenth-century maps of western South America to show how the Atacama Desert became part of the scientific and popular imagination. Although the name "Atacama" originally referred to Spain's sparsely populated province in southern Peru and northern Chile, that changed about 1700 when climate and landscape began to be factored into depictions of this arid region.

Among the important cartographic milestones, Guillaume Delisle's *Carte du Paraguay, du Chili . . .* (Paris, 1703/1708-1718), appears to be the first published European map delineating the Désert d'Atacama, and this map soon influenced others. Throughout the nineteenth century, cartographers offered versions of this desolate region, including Carey and Lea (1822), Lt. J.M. Gilliss (1849-52), Rudolph Philippi (1853-54), and August Petermann (1856-57). Noteworthy among the nineteenth-century maps is Francisco J. San Roman's majestic *Carta Geográfica del Desierto i Cordilleras de Atacama* (1892), which represented state-of-the-art late nineteenth-century mapping. By then, the Atacama was well fixed in the popular imagination, the scientific world-view, and the minds of foreign investors.

Vincent Szilagyi, of the Rocky Mountain Map Society, "The Mountains of the Moon: Mapping the Mythical Mountains":

Since the beginning of time, the source of the world's greatest river, the Nile, was shrouded in mystery. Legends sprang up that the Nile began at the feet of the Mountains of the Moon, a mountain range so high that it scraped the moon, and so far away that it could never be reached. The Mountains of the Moon captured the world's imagination for millenia, with each failed expedition sent by the Greeks, Romans, Persians and Arabs adding to the mystery. Ptolemy placed the Mountains of the Moon deep in the African interior with the Nile springing from two massive lakes nearby, and this depiction would remain on maps for millenia.

It was not until the 1800s that explorers finally reached the headquarters of the Nile, and the story of what they found there is as intriguing and engaging a story as any in the history of exploration. Arab slave traders and later British and American explorers charted the Great Lakes region of Africa and the headquarters of the Nile. The mapping of the area resulted in a frenzied colonial scramble with Britain, Germany, France, Egypt and Belgium parcelling out territory and extracting valuable resources like ivory and rubber. The historicity of the Mountains of the Moon remains up for debate with some scholars affixing their name

to various existing mountains like Kilimanjaro and the Ruwenzori, while other treat them as pure fantasy.

Chet Van Duzer, "The Maps used by Explorers in the Late Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries":

The question of using maps to guide a journey of discovery is inherently interesting; the maps can presumably guide the explorer reliably to a certain point, but if the goal is to discover new territory, to expand knowledge, then at some point the explorer will travel beyond what is reliably depicted on the map. This talk examines what we know about maps used by some explorers in the early stages of European expansion. Christopher Columbus was influenced by the Yale Martellus map and owned a copy of the 1478 edition of Ptolemy's *Geography*. Amerigo Vespucci's uncle Giorgio Antonio made a manuscript of Ptolemy's *Geography* that Amerigo was no doubt familiar with, and we have good information about the maps that Magellan took with him on his voyage round the world; data is available about the maps that other early explorers used. Examining the maps used by explorers allows us to get at the interplay between expectation and reality, between hope and experience, which is such an essential part of any voyage of discovery.

CHICAGO MAP SOCIETY NEWS

"Beyond Google Maps: Map Usage in the 21st Century"

Wilbert Stroeve

Mr. Dennis McClendon, a professional cartographer and long-time CMS member, has made numerous appearances before the Chicago Map Society over the years, and I found his presentation on January 18, 2018 at the Newberry Library to be especially informative. Besides the usual Google Maps, MapQuest, Bing maps, and other applications that might be on your phone, Mr. McClendon showed many other mapping possibilities. For example, you can even update an existing

map with new information, much like Wikipedia.

There is now a wealth of various mapping applications, and during Mr. McClendon's talk we could see what some of their capabilities are. Mr. McClendon made many of these mapping sites available at www.tinyurl.com/beyondgooglemaps. If you want to spend endless hours on the computer looking at representations of anywhere on the world, this is it!

Chicago International Map Fair to be held at Newberry Library

The Newberry Library (home of a world-renowned map collection and host of monthly Chicago Map Society Meetings) will host the Chicago International Map Fair May 3-5, 2019. The Chicago Map Society will contribute speakers for the lecture series.

Chicago Map Fairs (as well as the San Francisco Map Fairs, founded in September 2017) are operated by the History in Your Hands Foundation (HIYHF). Its mission is to provide teachers and students with authentic historical objects and primary source material to help foster a more enriched learning experience within the classroom through hands-on activities.

HIYHF's goal is that these activities and exposure of events such as map fairs will plant the seeds for future collectors who will one day support all map fairs, grow the community of collectors, and preserve such historical treasures for generations to come.

Seeking Publication Titles from CMS Members

We are in the process of updating our Chicago Map Society Publications webpage (www.chicagomapsociety.org/publications/).

If you have a scholarly or popular publication about the study of cartography or geography, please send us a note at contact@chicagomapsociety.org, and include your name, publication info (date, publisher, etc.), and a short abstract (100 words or less).

We look forward to sharing your accomplishments with our map-enthusiast community, and beyond!

2018-2019 Program Year: Calendar of Events

Thursday, November 15, 2018

The Early Modern Bird's-Eye View

Speaker: Mark Rosen

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Annual Holiday Gala and Members' Show-and-Tell

Speakers: Members of the Chicago Map Society

Thursday, January 17, 2019

Melchior Huebinger and the Making of the First Automobile Atlas of Iowa

Speaker: Mike Flaherty

Thursday, February 21, 2019

Book Party for Neighborhoods

Speaker: Emily Talen

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Book Party for A History of America in 100 Maps

Speaker: Susan Schulten

Thursday, April 18, 2019

Illinois Counties

Speaker: Kevin Lewis

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Chicago Diagrammed: Frank Glossop and the Mapping of Business Before and After the Fire

Speaker: Michael Conzen

Thursday, June 20, 2019

What Does it Mean to Map a Forest? Cartography and Geographical Knowledge in the Lake Superior Country in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries

Speaker: Peter Nekola

Location: The MacLean Collection, Lake Forest IL

IGS to Publish Special Issue on Cartography

CMS member and Special Guest Editor Joseph D. Kubal has announced the development of a special issue of the Illinois Geographical Society's (IGS) journal dedicated to cartography. The forthcoming issue of the *Illinois Geographer* (Vol. 60, Spring 2018, No. 1), dedicated to the bicentennial of Illinois, should be released prior to January 1, 2019. Article contributors include: Jim Akerman, Brock Alekna, Stacey Brown Amilan, Robert Holland, George and Mary Ritzlin, Chad Sperry, Christopher Sutton, and Jill Freund Thomas. Issues will be available at cost to non-IGS members. For more information, please contact Carmen Maso, IGS Central Office Director at cmaso19@illinoisgeography.org.

Donations for CMS Silent Auction

We are already busy making preparations for our Holiday Gala and Members' Night, which will take place Thursday, December 20 at The Newberry Library.

The Holiday Gala includes a Silent Auction of any items that members may wish to donate to the Society—the full value of which is tax-deductible! To help us assemble our program, please email us at contact@chicagomapsociety.org with details about any item you would like to donate for the auction.

Newberry Renovation Update

The CMS will be making use of new event spaces in the recently remodeled first floor of the Newberry, particularly Rettinger Hall.

This September, The Newberry unveiled the completed first floor, featuring a new Welcome Center and Bookstore, rotating and permanent gallery and exhibition spaces, boardrooms, and classrooms.

The Next Generation: Chicago Map Society Welcomes Its Youngest Member



At the September CMS meeting, Robert Holland welcomed the Chicago Map Society's newest - and at ten years old - youngest member, Jaxson Rosa.



Jaxson studying a print copy of Anton Thomas's hand drawn map of North America.

First issued in 1976, *Mapline* is co-published by the Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography and the Chicago Map Society, both of which are housed at The Newberry in Chicago. *Mapline* serves to keep its readers informed of each organization's work, including their publications and sponsored events. More generally, *Mapline* is devoted to advancing knowledge of the history of cartography by reporting events, ideas, and issues in the field. In addition to printing short articles reflecting current research, it functions as a bulletin to announce recent acquisitions to the cartographic collections at The Newberry. It also contains brief reports on conferences, exhibitions, societies, and lectures beyond The Newberry.

Managing Editor: Kara Johnson

Editorial Board: James R. Akerman, David Buisseret, Gerald A. Danzer, Robert Holland, D. Bradford Hunt, Kara Johnson, Mary McMichael Ritzlin, and Wilbert Stroeve.

Submissions, editorial correspondence, and inquiries may be directed to:

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Newberry Library
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Chicago, Ill. 60610
smithctr@newberry.org



Save the Date!
The 20th Kenneth Nebenzahl, Jr., Lectures in the History of Cartography
November 7-9, 2019
The Newberry Library

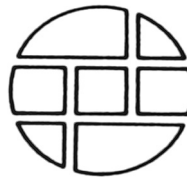
Since 1966, the Nebenzahl Lectures have been dedicated to exploring promising new themes and lines of research in the study of the science, art, and culture of mapmaking. Each series consists of several lectures given by a small group of invited scholars whose work addresses the theme of that year's series. The collected lectures of most series have been published by the University of Chicago Press. The lectures are free and open to the public; however, registration is required. For details on the Nebenzahl Lectures, see www.newberry.org/past-nebenzahl-lectures.



The Chicago Map Society is the oldest map society in North America, and has held monthly meetings at The Newberry since 1976. We typically meet the third Thursday of every month during the academic year (September through June). Meetings start at 5:30 p.m. with a social

half-hour, followed by an hour presentation on a cartographic subject of interest to our membership.

President: Robert A. Holland



The Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography was founded in 1972 to advance knowledge of the history of cartography and to promote the use of the Newberry's cartographic collections. Among the many programs it sponsors to

achieve these goals are institutes and seminars, research fellowships, exhibitions, workshops for educators and public historians, public lecture series, and a variety of print and electronic publications.

Director: James R. Akerman