Redrawing the World: 1919 and the History of Cartography

Twentieth Nebenzahl Lectures, November 7-9, 2019

Welcome to the Twentieth Nebenzahl Lectures

The Kenneth Nebenzahl, Jr., Lectures in the History of Cartography were founded by Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Nebenzahl (Sr.) in 1966 in honor of their son. In 2016 the Smith Center celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of these series, the first of their kind anywhere in the world, and still going. This year’s series, organized by Dr. Peter Nekola, will be the twentieth. It will set a record of sorts, in that we have invited a total of nine speakers to address this topic, enabling us to provide a worldwide context for what is all too often seen as a European War. The cartographic dimensions of the flawed Peace of Paris of 1919 offer insights not only into the peace negotiations, but also into the world we have lived in ever since. Alas, this aspect of map history is all too relevant to this age of renewed hyper-nationalism.

As always we are grateful to Ken and Jossy Nebenzahl for their unflagging support for this series and its role in preserving and promoting scholarship in the history of cartography.

-Jim Akerman, Smith Center Director

“The map is not the territory.” Since 1931, when neuro-linguistic theorist Alfred Korzybski first made this now famous exclamation, most map users who have subsequently heard, read, or passed on the quote have likely interpreted it in the way Korzybski had intended: The map is not the thing being mapped. Korzybski wrote two years later that this dictum was indeed borrowed from Mathematician Eric Temple Bell, with one change: Korzybski replaced Bell’s words, “the thing being mapped,” with his own “territory.” Was this change significant? Or might it have passed Korzybski’s pen unnoticed, as of course “the thing being mapped” is territory: What else would we map?

In the near-century since Korzybski’s famous utterance, there have been many reasons to equate “the thing being mapped” with “territory.” We might conclude, as some recent historians have, that the world has become more territorial, a process in which maps have played a great role. Or we may instead recognize a territorial “moment,” from which the world is now moving on. Much historical writing in the twentieth century—both popular and academic—was unqualifiedly territorial in its language, structure, and choice of what Arnold Toynbee called its “units of study”—nations, peoples, empires, civilizations, or some other defining category. When prompted to explain why these units? one common response from students, scholars, and general readers alike is a similarly unqualified “it’s human nature.” But history, as a field, must be critical of such non-explanations. However it is that humans have come to accept particular conditions as “reality,” the historian’s response must be: There’s a story there.

1919 has many stories. It was a pivotal year for the articulation of rights of many stripes: Those of women, of workers, and of various ethnic groups. Some of those articulations were peaceful, others were not. 1919 ushered in rapid economic, technological, and cultural changes around the world, as well as pointed reactions to such changes. 1919 saw massive impositions—or expressions—of ideology, depending on how one interprets them. Finally, 1919 saw the redrawing of “the world,” or, perhaps more specifically, of what many around the world saw when they looked at a territorial map of their world, “Looking at the world” in the sense in which cartographer Richard Edes Harrison employed the term in 1944. Was this a redrawing of the territorial world, from empire and colony to nation and republic? Or might it have deeper philosophical meaning: A redrawing of the world from a more open to a more closed, territorial space? Why was it done? How was it done? And what should it mean for us, a century later?

These territorial questions, and the maps that attempted to answer them, are the subject of the 20th Nebenzahl Lectures. Over the course of three days they will be addressed, concretely and abstractly, from Paris to Beijing, from Tanganyika to Silesia, from New York to Persia, from Yugoslavia to Palestine, and in places in between. There is, indeed, a story in all of these “theres.” You are warmly invited to attend, from November 7-9, and hear it.

-Peter Nekola, Nebenzahl Lecture Organizer
Drafting the State of the South Slavs: New Cartography for a New Order
Mirela Altic, University of Zagreb

The Paris Peace Conference marked a turning point in the way maps were used in the reshaping of territory and in the forming of new states. The diplomatic activity surrounding the creation of the new nation-states that emerged after the dissolution of the old empires propelled cartography into the foreground as a key tool of politics as never before, making the maps used at the Paris Peace Conference some of the most important maps of the twentieth century. The determination of the new states’ boundaries, based mainly on the application of two principles – the historical principle, referring to a country’s historical boundaries, and the principle of nationality, which sought to place as large a proportion of population as possible in their home country, involved the use of maps as the main source of information and as the base for decision making. In that regard, a comparative analysis of thematic maps of different provenance became one of the key geopolitical techniques for all delegations.
One of the most complex negotiation processes that took place at the Paris Peace Conference was certainly the creation of a common state of the South Slavs – the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (later renamed Yugoslavia). Until then, the constituent parts of this newly created entity had never been part of a single state, a fact which particularly complicated the definition of its borders. Already during World War I, in support of the process of creating the new state and shaping its future borders, the cartographers from the South Slavic countries began producing a significant number of political, administrative, historical, linguistic, and ethnic maps. These maps were compiled to assist in the determination of the borders between Yugoslavia and the neighboring countries, relying upon the principle of nationality. In this regard, the main challenge for the South Slavic cartographers was how to advocate the application of the principle of nationality in such multiethnic area as was the state of the South Slavs. Namely, even though the unity of the South Slavic peoples, with all their different component parts, was by no means perceived as the deletion of identity of each individual South Slavic nation, in these negotiations, the future state was presented as a homogeneous territory of the South Slavs, thus ascribing to the South Slavs the character of a nation.

In this talk, special attention will be given to what exact maps were used in the process of determining the territorial shape of the Yugoslav state and its boundaries, to what extent such maps authentically portrayed historical and geographical information about the territory of the future state, and how the whole process influenced the development of cartography in the nascent Yugoslav state. These maps will be confronted with the maps of other interested national delegations, especially the Italian, the Hungarian, the French, and the American, setting forth the arguments for their respective positions. Apart from the original cartographic documents used during the negotiation process, particular attention will also be given to maps published in journals and books of the era that reflected how the boundary issue of Yugoslavia was presented to, and received by, the public, through both textuality and maps.

Mapping a New African Empire: Britain and Tanganyika Between the Wars
Lindsay Frederick Braun, University of Oregon

After the formal settlement of the First World War in 1919, the United Kingdom added several former German possessions to its colonial empire as League of Nations mandates. The largest of these new trust domains, Tanganyika (today mainland Tanzania), pulled Britain in two directions. On one side, the territory was part of the empire that would help Britain recover economically and geopolitically. On the other, the mandate carried an expectation of improvement that would benefit its inhabitants and reform the colonial presence. Cartography was essential to both visions, whether governing land use, promoting (and limiting) settler colonial expansion, expanding infrastructure and access to both human labor and mineral resources, or situating Tanganyika within East Africa or the Empire itself.

This lecture will explore the maps and mapping of Tanganyika—and, where applicable, that of its neighbors—between the two world wars from a variety of sources, whether colonial or imperial, state or private. East Africa in general became an early focus of efforts to establish imperial survey offices and push forth more comprehensive and precise systems of mapping, but colonial administrators had goals and projects that might demand other geographical information—mining, disease control, water security, the transfer of land to Europeans in settlement schemes (and the control of African bodies and labor), or transportation. Private organizations also deployed maps to promote their own visions of the territory. The nature of these maps and their relationship to their objects, however, expressed the uncertainties of policy, the ambiguities of meaning, and the limits of imperial power relative to local forces.
“More than one Palestine”: Nationalist Cartographies, the Middle East and the 1919 Peace Negotiations in Paris
Daniel Foliard, Paris Nanterre University

The 1919 Paris Peace Conference offered an unprecedented opportunity to envision potential states and borders in maps. With the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire, a constellation of groups from what was starting to be named “the Middle East” attempted to influence the outcome of the negotiations, with varying degrees of efficacy. This lecture explores their uses of cartography. It will partly go against the grain of the established narrative which often depicts these claims as weak reflections of Euro-American expertise. By decentering the perspective, it argues that the diverse legations which tried to make themselves heard in Paris often developed skillful cartographic justifications to support their views. Many of them, such as Persia, could rely on their own mapping traditions. In the process - and even the “Big Four” often refused to listen - most of them laid the bases of future national claims. Maps played a crucial part in these constructions. In that sense, the 1919 negotiations, as well as ensuing treaties, should be understood as one of the stages of a longer process of national crystallization in the “Middle East” rather than a sudden, foreign-imposed disruption.

This talk will rely on micro-analyses of sets of archives that documents uses of cartography by legations from the disintegrating Ottoman Empire. It will focus on Prince Firuz’s work for Persia as well as Armenian, Assyrian and Lebanese-Syrian claims (such as the 1919 reinvention of the 1862 French map of Lebanon) in relation to more structured forms of vindication, namely from the Greek and Zionist legations. It will also tackle overlooked interactions between these networks (for instance between Nubar Pasha and Faisal al-Hashemi or Turkish attempts at contradicting some of the legations’ views). The reception and/or discarding of these claims by European and American leaders has been well studied. It will mostly be envisaged in the light of their own cartographic literacy and their capacity to use and understand maps in their proceedings.
Cartographies of Victimhood: Envisioning the Nation after the Paris Peace Treaties of 1919-1920

Jason Hansen, Furman University

“We came to Versailles in the expectation of receiving a peace proposal based on the agreed principles... We were aghast when we read in [the] documents the demands made upon us, the victorious violence of our enemies.” – Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau, head of the German delegation to the Paris Peace Conference (1919)

Like many of his fellow countrymen, Count Ulrich von Brockdorff-Rantzau was outraged by the terms of the Versailles Treaty when it was presented to the German delegation on June 28, 1919. Among other things, it called for the loss of large swaths of German territory (including all its colonies), placed heavy limitations on the strength of Germany’s military, required Germany to make massive reparations payments and perhaps most humiliatingly of all, forced the country to accept sole responsibility for having caused the most destructive conflict in European history. That the terms of Germany’s surrender would be difficult was not unexpected. Von Brockdorff-Rantzau himself admitted that Germany would have to make “sacrifices...in order to attain peace.” Yet somewhere between the announcement of Woodrow Wilson’s idealistic 14 points and the end of the peace conference, something had gone horribly wrong from the German standpoint.

The Versailles Treaty had evolved from the natural and deserved consequence for a lost war into an historical injustice, a crime committed by the Allies against the German people that would sow the seeds of a future war.

“Cartographies of Victimhood” will examine the role played by cartographic knowledge in taking Germans along this journey, transforming in their minds the negotiations for a peace treaty (something that was legitimate) into a crime (something illegitimate). It will suggest the emergence of a new form of thematic map after 1919: the victim map, a powerful propagandistic tool that helped convince Germans not only of the injustice of the current moment, but which also laid the foundation for revisionist claims that would be exploited by Adolf Hitler and NSDAP. This talk will focus on a variety of popular maps from public sources published in the German lands between 1918 and 1933. In the end I hope to place this new form of “victim cartography” into its broader historical context, showing the power of visual imagery to inspire radicalism at the start of the twentieth century.

**From Connectivity to Geobody:**
The 1919 Moment and China’s Role in the World

Tze-ki Hon, City University of Hong Kong

Known as the May Fourth Movement, the “1919 moment” in China was full of ambiguity and tension. On the one hand, “May Fourth” refers to a one-day incident where thousands of students marched through Beijing on May 4, 1919 to protest the unequal treatment of China in the Versailles Settlement. On the other hand, the same term signifies a decade-long movement, from 1915 to 1925, to bring “science” and “democracy” to China by changing its written language, its Confucian tradition, and its patriarchal family structure. This doubling of the “May Fourth” highlights two differing images of the “1919 moment” in China: its heroism and its melancholy. It was heroic because in 1919 the Chinese—especially the young generation—joined other peoples around the world in demanding national self-determination. It was melancholic because the Chinese—especially the cultural elites—continued to
westernize the country despite their doubt about the supremacy of the West.

I will discuss the double meanings of the “1919 moment” by analyzing maps. Maps in early twentieth-century China projected two contrasting images: a hierarchy in time and a hierarchy in space. In the former, the Chinese map makers presented the world as a dynamic totality dedicated to building networks of production, circulation, and consumption. In this representation, humankind appeared to march forward, over time, in achieving a higher civilization. In the latter, the Chinese map makers presented the world as “a family of nations” with clear territorial boundaries and explicit markers of sovereignty. As such, the world was likened to a coliseum wherein nation-states competed to advance their interests in an increasingly hostile and predatory world. In the lecture, I will explain how the “1919 moment” was pivotal to a shift in the Chinese worldview. This shift, I argue, paved the way for the rise of anti-imperialist nationalism in 1930s China.

![Imperialism around 1914. From Tze-ki Hon.](image-url)
nomena, from weather patterns and atmospheric conditions to population density to elevation and drainage. Cartographers making tools for this sort of reasoning experimented with a variety of material techniques to usefully represent correlatable terrestrial phenomena, using atlases of successive maps, overlays, and other visual strategies. What emerged was not just a mélange of design techniques but, effectively, a new, visual theory of knowledge.

The Peace Conference posed another set of philosophical questions. While the taxonomy-like practice of territorial mapping had a long historical precedent, one lesson of the First World War was that power and authority demanded new forms of justification. The “Wilsonian” language of national “self-determination” suggested a consistent basis for distinguishing political units: such units could correspond to national “selves,” but what characterized a national “self,” and where did one begin and another end? Attempting answers, several geographers tasked with developing maps to redraw territorial boundaries at this time would adopt some of the mapping techniques used in natural and social sciences. If an argument could be made for recognizing a “natural” or otherwise reasonable political territory in the age of science, maps of this sort were some of the best tools available. But could natural- and social-science-reasoning be reasonably extended into the sphere of national identity?

This lecture will analyze selected delegation maps drawn to show a “natural” nation or territory, and will work to tell the story of how many of these maps drew from the developing field of scientific-cartographic visualization. It will go on to illustrate how, by experimenting with data overlays and pattern
correlation, and by attempting to define, map, and correlate distributions of language, ethnicity, and culture with other mappable conditions, some cartographers attempted to extend this visual reasoning to address questions of “natural” identity. It will begin with a brief historical and philosophical sketch of correlational mapping up to 1919, followed by an examination of material examples of attempts to extend such reasoning into blueprints for national/territorial projects at the time. It will conclude by examining the paradox of these maps’ simultaneous epistemic failure and cultural success, after which nation and territory, as concepts, would evade mass scrutiny for decades, and the reputation of the practice of correlating mapped conditions and distributions would suffer for a century from its brief association with geopolitics.

The Visual Epistemology of Territory and Population, 1919–1939
William Rankin, Yale University

The immediate goal at the Peace Conference in 1919 was to draft new borders, and the conventional wisdom—both at the time and in recent scholarship—has focused on the problem of nationhood. How can nationality be stabilized and made legitimate, and what is its relationship to race, ethnicity, language, religion, trade, history, and conquest? Cartography, as ever, was a key technology for mediating between the two meanings of nation: nation as a bounded territory, nation as a group of people. By 1913 the cartography of territory had largely been stabilized, both informally through expert agreement and formally through the treaties of the International Map of the World. But there was no similar agreement about how to map people, and during the war new approaches proliferated both within and beyond the preparations for peace. For geographers, the representation of population was something broader and more fundamental than nationality: What is population, and how is it spatial? Is it continuous or discontinuous, environmental or cultural? What is “density,” what defines a city, and how do cities matter? If the premise of 1919 was that the traditional hierarchy between territory and population should be inverted—with population now being more determinant—it was not clear whether cartography was up to the task.

My talk begins with the diversity of published and archival maps from 1919, but its main focus is the debate about population mapping over the next twenty years, when attention shifted from nation-making to concerns about urbanization, eugenics, and “the population problem.” From the war to the early 1930s, geographers in Europe and the US sought “the perfect population map,” and there were two main camps: the blobs and the dots. (Or, more precisely, the “pleths”—isopleths and choropleths—versus dots, spheres, and what we now call cartograms.) These two forms of representation were associated with different intellectual and political projects, they were taken up differently in different countries, and they made different claims about environment, territory, and governance. But neither side could claim victory, and by the close of the interwar period the hope of universal agreement had largely evaporated. I argue that the hardening dichotomy between territorial space and population space isn’t just an episode in the history of visual communication—a disagreement about map symbols—but is instead one of the central epistemic and political legacies of the early twentieth century.

Skins, Lines, Borders: Geographic Expertise and the Mapping of Eastern Europe in 1919
Steven Seegel, University of Northern Colorado

Borders are, at first glance, simple lines. Once drawn geopolitically, they are made to appear natural, innocent, or “historic” in a pedagogical manner. Every border in every map has at least two sides. Co-operative zones of transfer, they can be expansive and spectral, but after World War I, ethnonationalists more frequently imagined them as sites (“skins”) for trespass, transgression, or foreign bodily penetration. After the Paris Peace Conference, nationalists took over the task of seeing-like-a-state from colonial empires
Lines of Control, Lines of Contestation: Cartography and British Imperial Politics in the Middle East Mandates, 1919-1948

Penny Sinanoglou, Wake Forest University

The lines drawn by the Great Powers across the territory of the former Ottoman Empire at the end of World War I famously created a new patchwork quilt of states held as League of Nations mandates by Britain and France. Great scholarly emphasis has been placed—rightly—on the imperial arrogance inherent in the thick penciled lines which severed urban centers from their hinterlands, confined nomadic peoples, and paid little heed to trade routes and linguistic and cultural ties, to say nothing of the will of the inhabitants of the region expressed to members of the King-Crane Commission which visited the region in 1919.

The peace maps were not, however, the last cartographic word. In the aftermath of the postwar settlement, cartography itself became a site of control and contestation. From visions of Greater Syria to those of a Jewish state on both sides of the Jordan River, cartographies of resistance, revision, and accumulation entered the political lexicon of the Middle East. Likewise, in their attempts at shaping the politics of the territories they had carved out, the mandatory regimes sought to map material presents and imagined futures for these territories.

Against this backdrop, my lecture will examine how cartography was deployed in mandate Palestine in the thirty years after 1919 to variously contest or cement British imperial rule in its mandatory guise. The maps I will use range from administrative and bureaucratic ones, such as those rationalizing agricultural settlement and fixing tax lots, to both official and popular maps reflecting or imagining political entities. In the latter category, I am particularly interested in maps that manage to capture mobility across the borders drawn during the peace conferences, and that imagine alternative boundaries. My aim is to show how British imperial power was manifested cartographically, and simultaneously to demonstrate how we can read imperial weakness and local contestation over British power emerging through maps.
This Summer, the Smith Center hosted 16 scholars from around the United States for a four-week seminar on the materiality of maps and their place in the digital age. The Seminar was led by Smith Center Director Jim Akerman and Luther College Professor Peter Nekola. An array of gems from the collection as well as more commonplace but no less historically interesting objects like road maps allowed participants to access different aspects of the materiality of maps in daily workshops. Each participant worked on a different cartographically related topic for their final projects with a wide range of subjects covered, from iconography in early modern European maps of the Americas, Africa, and Asia to the digital mapping technologies used by the US Military in the twenty-first century.

While most of the seminar took place at the Newberry, exploring the cartographic collections, the two field trips were a highlight of the four weeks. The first, organized by Peter Nekola, took the participants to the Indiana Dunes National Park and focused on early ecological thinking and dune researchers’ field maps (pictured below). Peter led us on a hike through the dunes to see how vegetation takes root and changes the landscape from beach to forest, as well as how erosion and human interference can harm the dunes’ natural processes. Jim led the group on a tour through
DuPage county where we learned about the development of suburbs, and how growth was affected by different methods of transportation. The trip culminated in a visit to Fermilab in Batavia, IL, though the true highlight was a stop at a typical suburban home for a discussion on family patterns of movement out of the city only to learn that our case study was the childhood home of none other than our very own Jim Akerman.

The seminar was incredibly successful and a testament to quality of work being done by the Smith Center. In August, Jim was awarded a grant from the NEH to lead another summer seminar to be held in July of 2020 entitled Mapping Nature across the Americas. This grant marks the 14th that Jim has been awarded from the NEH to run summer programs with the Smith Center.

Maps Concerning the Caribbean (1492-1815)

A guide to the Spanish Karpinski Series of Photographs at the Newberry Library, Chicago, with Notice of Related Cartographic Materials

Medardo Rosario

On September 1st, 2019, Hurricane Dorian made landfall in the Bahamas. The Category 5 hurricane became the strongest tropical cyclone on record to ever strike the archipelago. Devastation and deaths caused by this type of system—and the lack of an appropriate response from the U.S. Government—have become a new normal in the Caribbean region. Two years ear-

1761 [1731] - [D’Anville, Jean Baptiste Bourguignon]. Mapa de las Islas de la America y de otros paises de Tierra Firme situados antes de estas islas y alrededor del Golfo de México. 31 x 44 cm., MapPHoto Spain AGI 146-1-10 (1) [#215]. Newberry Library.
lier, on September 17th, 2017, Hurricane Maria hit the island of Puerto Rico. The Trump administration was heavily criticized for its delayed response to the catastrophe, which led to the deaths of more than 4,600 American citizens. President Trump justified the lack of support contesting that Puerto Rico “is an island surrounded by water, big water, ocean water;” meaning the territory is difficult to reach. His comment added to the perception that Puerto Rico and the Caribbean have nothing to do with the continental U.S.

The inaccessibility of the Caribbean region has been a trope since Columbus’ arrival in 1492. For instance, one of its names, the Antilles, originates with the mythical Antillia, a lost island suspended in the northern part of the Atlantic Ocean, often represented in maps. Examining representations of the Caribbean in cartographic materials (maps, travel accounts, manuscripts, etc.) provides the means to explore what type of narratives have been articulated about this region across time. By understanding said history, we aim to foster better-informed and more productive conversations about the Caribbean and its relationship with the rest of the world.

During the past month of August and first part of September, the Graduate Global Impact internship program allowed me to perform an extensive survey of the Newberry Library’s collections relating to Caribbean history up to 1815. I designed my own internship experience in coordination with James R. Akerman, Director of the Smith Center for the History of Cartography. The library possesses an extensive collection for the Caribbean within the aforementioned period. Nonetheless, it is especially difficult for researchers who may have limited time to work at the Newberry to find groups of related materials that are dispersed throughout the collection. Although the online catalog and other search aids provide general subject-based guidance to these materials, we feel that scholarly and student access to these resources would be greatly enhanced through the creation of a more detailed, annotated guide. The survey comprises manuscripts, maps, travel accounts, histories, geographies, contemporary periodicals, and manuscripts of the Caribbean. While the Spanish Karpinski Series of Photographs served as the main focus of this research due to time constraints, other related cartographic materials were noted as well. The final guide consists of a brief introductory and annotated bibliography.

Notes


4. The program provides funded, short-term worldwide employment opportunities to graduate students at the University of Chicago.

The Arthur and Janet Holzheimer Fellowship in the History of Cartography at the Newberry Library

Newberry Library Fellowships provide support to researchers who wish to use our collection. We promise you intriguing and often rare materials; a lively, interdisciplinary community of researchers; individual consultations on your research; and an array of both scholarly and public programs.

*The Arthur and Janet Holzheimer Fellowship in the History of Cartography* is a short-term opportunity for scholars working on projects related to the history of cartography or projects focusing on cartographic materials in the Newberry’s collection. For more information, please visit our website at www.newberry.org/fellowships. eadline: December 15, 2019
Chicago Map Society 2019-2020 Calendar of Events

Thursday, September 19, 2019
*Mapping the Solar System*
Speaker: Andrew Johnston

Thursday, October 17, 2019
*Mapping the Impossible: Humboldt in the New World*
Speaker: Laura Dassow Walls

November 7-9, 2019
“Redrawing the World: 1919 and the History of Cartography”
The Twentieth Kenneth Nebenzahl Jr. Lectures in the History of Cartography

Thursday, November 21, 2019
*The Place Native Americans Called “Chicagoua”*
Speaker: The Windy City Historians

Thursday, December 19, 2019
*Annual Holiday Gala and Members' Show-and-Tell*
Speakers: Members of the Chicago Map Society

Thursday, January 16, 2020
*17 Fascinating World Map Oddities*
Speaker: Chuck Olsen

Thursday, February 20, 2020
*To be announced*
Speaker: Karen Barzman

Thursday, March 19, 2020
*How to Buy a Map: Everything Else You Need to Know*
Speaker: George Ritzlin

Thursday, April 16, 2020
*Networked Nation: Mapping German Cities in Sebastian Münster’s Cosmographia*
Speaker: Jasper van Putten

Thursday, May 21, 2020
*Carto-Caricatures of the Midwest*
Speaker: Amanda Murphyao

Thursday, June 18, 2020
*An Exploration of County Atlases*
Speaker: Michael Conzen
Location: The MacLean Collection, Lake Forest, IL
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: Madeline Crispell


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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