

MAPS IN HISTORY



SEPTEMBER 2024
Newsletter No

80

The Cassini Map Lacaille's 'Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance' ICHC2024 - History of Cartography Conference





**Bid in our monthly antique map sales
You never pay more than the Buy price**

www.rarepapersales.com

Quality consignments accepted

info@rarepapersales.com

tel.: NL +31 6 278 39704



Our online catalog includes fine maps,
atlases and globes that are available for immediate sale

www.swaen.com

tel.: NL +31 6 278 39704 - paulus@swaen.com

Venator & Hanstein

Book and Print Auctions

**RARE MAPS AND VIEWS · MANUSCRIPTS
OLD AND MODERN PRINTS · RARE BOOKS**

Auctions in spring and fall. Consignments are
welcome. Catalogues upon request and online



M. v. Aitzing, Der Leone Belgico, Cologne, 1583. Result 63,000 €

Cacilienstrasse 48 · 50667 Cologne · Tel. +49-221-257 54 19
venator@lempertz.com · www.venator-hanstein.de

Loeb-Larocque

**Maps, Atlases, Prints
and Books**

31, rue de Tolbiac
75013 Paris

By appointment only

Tel +33 (0) 6 11 80 3375
Tel/Fax +33 (0) 1 44 24 85 80
info@loeb-larocque.com

www.loeb-larocque.com

ARENBERG



AUCTIONS

MAPS, ATLASES, BOOKS & PRINTS



Rue aux Laines 19/2 · 1000 Brussels
info@arenbergauctions.com · +32 (0) 2 544 10 55
www.arenbergauctions.com

Contents

Looks at books

Carte Blanche – Ferraris diplomacy in a Europe in revolution	5
The Cassini Map	7
La Provence de Cassini – Looking at Provence at the end of the 18 th century with Cassini's maps	9

History and Cartography

Dupain-Triel Fils, the true author of the legend of the Cassini map ... an uncertainty resolved	13
The editions and states of Lacaille's 'Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance'	17
Argentario ceramic wall maps	31

International News

ICHC 2024 Lyon: The 30th International Conference on the History of Cartography,	33
Picturing the Far Away, a European Vision.....	39
ICHC 2024 Lyon: The Map Fair	41

The Brussels Map Circle News

How I got into cartography : An interview with Šima Krtalić.....	43
--	----

Intro

Dear Map Circle Members,

I was very glad to meet so many of you at the International Conference on the History of Cartography (ICHC) in Lyon in July. It was a pleasure to finally leave Covid-19 restrictions behind and share conversation, drinks, visits and jokes in person. While it is challenging to sum up an entire week packed with presentations and complementary events, a humble attempt awaits you here.

Nevertheless, most of the pages of this issue are devoted not to the ICHC but to the second half of the 18th century. I invite you to don your wigs and discover, first, not less than three contributions on the subject of the Cassini map of France. Two are reviews of recently published books, one of which is by Circle member Jacques Mille. The other is a research article, also by Jacques, that provides novel insights into the long-ignored legend of the Cassini map. You will then cross the border to the Austrian Netherlands, which roughly correspond to today's Belgium and Luxembourg, to read about the biography authored by Circle member Karen De Coene of Joseph de Ferraris, who famously surveyed this territory in the 1770s. Somewhat less well-known than Cassini and Ferraris' maps are Louis de Lacaille's efforts to survey the Cape of Good Hope region in the 1750s. Roger Stewart takes us on a deep dive into Lacaille's maps, including the discovery of a manuscript original.

The publication of two books authored by members of the Circle only a few months apart is quite exceptional. I wonder how many societies can boast of a per capita book output higher than ours! More seriously, Jacques' and Karen's publications fill me with a feeling of collective pride that I hope you share too.

Enjoy your read.

Luis A. Robles Macías, editor

Cover : the *Cassini map*.

One of the 182 sheets of Cassini's map of France, in the original Grand Aigle format and contemporary colours.



Luis A. Robles Macías
luis.a.robles.macias@gmail.com



*A map enthousiast with 40 years of pure passion.
Discover maps from all over the world.*

Instagram icon cartahistorica

Facebook icon cartahistorica

Email icon info@cartahistorica.com

Antiquariat Peter Kiefer

Buch- und Kunstauktionen

(Book and art auctions)

Steubenstraße 36
75172 Pforzheim, Germany

Tel +49 7231 / 9232-0
Fax +49 7231 / 9232-16
p.kiefer@kiefer.de

www.kiefer.de

Making Maps in History

This issue of Maps in History was edited
by Luis Robles.

Contents have been checked by
the Editorial Committee comprising
Jean-Louis Renteux, Nicola Boothby, Wouter
Bracke, Francis Herbert, Pierre Parmentier,
Soetkin Vervust and Luis Robles.

Paul De Candt did the layout.

Carte Blanche

De diplomatie van Ferraris in een Europa in omwenteling [*Carte blanche - Ferraris' diplomacy in a Europe in revolution*]

by Karen De Coene

— Tielt, Lannoo, 2024

— 341 pages, hardcover, 16 × 25 cm

— ISBN 9789401495196, EUR 34.99



Every map lover in Belgium is familiar with the Ferraris map. Even the general public in the country knows that this map is virtually the last image, the last inventory of what the country — which did not yet exist and would become Belgium — looked like at the end of the eighteenth century. Countless publications have already been devoted to this map, of which the PhD of our member Soetkin Vervust is the latest in the academic line. In the online abstract of this work, we can immediately refresh our memory and read what exactly this map (actually maps) was: “In the 18th century, what is now Belgium formed part of the Habsburg Empire as the Austrian Netherlands. Between 1770 and 1774 this territory was subjected to a large-scale military survey, carried out by the artillery corps of the Austrian Netherlands under the command of its Director-General, Joseph Jean François Count de Ferraris (1726–1814). By the end of 1777, this exercise had resulted in two maps: the manuscript *Carte de cabinet* (1:11,520) and the printed *Carte marchande* (1:86,400).”¹

Dr Vervust thus closes the ranks of scientists who have studied the map down to its smallest details — to the great satisfaction of contemporary historians, geographers, spatial planners, local historians and toponymists — to determine its geometric accuracy, without of course forgetting a short biography of the namesake himself in her work.

And yet ... and yet: who was Ferraris anyway? Just as Mercator, for example, is always portrayed as 'the cosmographer', Ferraris is also always 'framed' from the angle in which he made his most famous achievement: cartography. This is inherent in how people organise and understand their experiences

and interactions by using 'frames', mental schemas that influence the interpretation of information. But a person is more than that one perspective. And Karen De Coene — art historian and secretary of the Map Circle for many years — understands that well. Not only was Dr De Coene a member of the committee that assessed Soetkin Vervust's doctorate, she has also conducted research into the correspondence between Ferraris and his wife, Marie Henriette d'Ursel. Although it is very fragmentary, it is also extremely intimate and moving. A man of flesh and blood comes fully to life. This correspondence reveals a world in which the nobility did everything but sit still, constantly maintaining a network of relationships across European courts. This included the court of Maria Theresa of Austria, which was the centre of Ferraris' world. Maria Theresa, Archduchess of Austria, Queen of Hungary and Bohemia from 1740 to 1780, married to Emperor Francis I Stefan and in that capacity also Empress of the Holy Roman Empire from 1745 to 1765. And godmother to some of Ferraris' children, several of whom died at birth or shortly afterwards.

At her court, Ferraris will grow up as an adolescent, in a whirl of languages, several of which he masters. A military career awaits him in which he will later distinguish himself on the battlefield.

Origin and family ties, preferably as prestigious as possible, are the Alpha and Omega of this world. And Ferraris does not escape that rule: not only are his own origins somewhat frenetically raised to a higher level than they perhaps really are, his marriage is also calculated in view of that objective. Henriette d'Ursel (1743–1810) is no longer very young when she marries him in 1776, she is not particularly beautiful or rich, but she belongs to the highest noble circles in the Austrian Netherlands. And, as the correspondence surprisingly reveals: it is a marriage of love. Truly rare at that time.

¹ Vervust Soetkin, *Deconstructing the Ferraris maps (1770–1778): a study of the map production process and its implications for geometric accuracy*, Ghent University Faculty of Sciences, 2016. Available at <https://biblio.ugent.be/publication/8028408>

Ferraris drives from here to there, writing to his wife, while diligently networking: see the impressive map in the book with his movements and those of his pregnant (!) wife. Research very often starts from the questions of its own time. Here the book offers an interesting look at the women who were so important not only in Ferraris' life, but also in the high noble circles of the eighteenth century.

But seeing and being seen, in those circles, costs money. In that context, Ferraris must find ways to maintain his position. The idea of setting up a cartographic project for this purpose is well described in the book: who preceded Ferraris and provided him with inspiration, who assessed his plans, how did he ultimately convince Maria Theresa to join the project? Here the book also brings to light an aspect that has so far remained rather underexposed in the genesis of the map: the function of the map in the light of Habsburg geopolitics. For example, the idea of an exchange of the Austrian Netherlands for Bavaria had already emerged during the War of the Austrian Succession (1740–1748) and came into focus again in the context of the War of the Bavarian Succession (1778–1779). Bavaria was an independent Electorate within the Holy Roman Empire and the Elector died childless in 1778; thereafter Prussia and Austria disputed the area.

Empress Maria Theresa and her minister Kaunitz considered several territorial realignments to reshuffle their influence and neutralise potential enemies. One can imagine that a map of the Austrian Netherlands would have been useful in that context.

One thing is certain: the Ferraris map was not separate from the world in which it was created. And that is one of the things that this book does an excellent job of portraying. As our friends from the University of Amsterdam realise all too well with their project 'Maps in Context', which 'aims at solving the apparently insurmountable problem of the lost links between old maps and their contemporary contexts.' This book is a good example of the usefulness of such research.



Fig. 1. Portrait of Joseph Jean François de Ferraris (1726-1814) with the Grand Cross of the Military Order of Maria Theresa, awarded to him after the siege of Valenciennes in 1793.



Fig. 2. Portrait of Henriette d'Ursel (1743-1810), by unknown author



Caroline De Candt
carolinedecandt@gmail.com

La carte de Cassini

[The Cassini Map]

- Mhère: Conspiration Éditions, 2024
- Lead editor Jean-Luc Arnaud
- 400 pages, French and English, 57 × 66.5 cm, 15 kg
- ISBN 979-10-95550-46-4, EUR 2400,00 + shipping



Conspiration Éditions have just published an exceptional, indeed ‘monumental’, book on the Cassini map. It is nothing less than the reproduction, in the original Grand Aigle format (65 × 35 cm) and in contemporary colours, of the 182 sheets of Cassini’s map of France, also known as the *Academy Map* or better *La Carte de l’Académie*; in particular the set preserved at the Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF) and available on Gallica, which constitute the so-called ‘Marie Antoinette’ collection. The work is a luxurious, limited edition of 600 numbered copies, at the price of EUR 2 400 plus shipping (around EUR 300), weighing 15 kg and more than 20 kg with the attached lectern! Given the price, this work is mainly intended for institutions i.e. libraries and universities.

Lead editor Jean-Luc Arnaud has authored a 22-page presentation text, *Introduction et Travaux préliminaires*. It does not aim to tell the history of the Cassini map, already told by General Berthaut in 1898 and, more recently, outstandingly by Monique Pelletier¹, but rather to put the reproduced BnF maps in their original context, explaining how they were made and published. Arnaud casts doubt on the fact that these maps were intended for Marie Antoinette, as there is no evidence of this other than the assumption that such a complete order in homogeneous colours must have been made for a high-ranking or wealthy person. There are clues to a post-revolutionary date: ‘Département’ on the Paimboeuf, Nantes and Paris sheets. Furthermore, colouring is incomplete on the Nantes sheet and absent on the Bordeaux one, which has no relief either. However, the scales of the Paimboeuf, Nantes and Bordeaux sheets are all in toises and not in metres, a unit which was created in 1795 and made official in 1802.

Arnaud and the editorial team have also put together a legend. As the original map sheets lack any, this is helpful. Their legend is a remarkable piece of research, which will prove very useful for researchers and readers with its ordered list of more than 530 ‘signs and words’, all very clearly presented. It should nevertheless be noted that a partial legend to the Cassini map was published by a contemporary mapmaker².

The entire work, including the presentation text and legend, is in a bilingual version, French and English, in a clear and readable layout, as far as handling such a large book allows! The text innovates with respect to Pelletier’s book and is supplemented with illustrations relating to the creation of the map taken from the minutes at the Institut géographique national (now in the National Archives of France).

The reproductions of the map sheets are of excellent quality. They are presented in the numbering order of the initial assembly table, inscribed at the top left of the sheet, from No 1 Paris to No 175 Brest, plus the seven smaller format sheets numbered in bis to constitute a final total of 182 issues.

As is well known, Cassini’s map covers all of France at the time it was drawn up, in ‘regular’, i.e. ‘geometric’ sheets, indifferent to the administrative divisions of the time, as well as to the relief. Thus Rennes finds itself straddling two sheets, as do Lyon and Marseille on the margins of the sheet where each city is represented. In addition, the numbering is based, from the Observatory of Paris, on either side of the Meridian, from Paris to Dunkirk (1 to 6), then from Paris (1 to 20/20+) to Mont Louis / Puigcerdà.

And, as we also know, the publication took place over almost half a century, from the first sheet, Paris, in 1756,

¹ L’extraordinaire aventure de la carte de France... (Ponts et Chaussées, 1990), with revised pocket edition by CTHS in 2013.

² I discuss this in detail in this same issue of *Maps in History*, pages XX-YY.

to the last, Brittany, at the beginning of the following century. In addition, each sheet has, at top right, the indication of the order of publication: Paris 1st sheet published and, for example, Toulon (No 155) 131st sheet published. At the beginning of the 19th century, due to its complexity, this double numbering was replaced by a new, orthonormal one, with a vertical number and a horizontal letter, hence Paris 1/6 H and Toulon 155/20 M. A scale in metres was also added after 1802 alongside the one in toises, and a few updates were made to roads, departmental boundaries and so on.

Once we understand the rules of access to the sheets and, using the legend, we can read them, the reproduced Cassini maps reveal, in addition to a real pleasure for the eyes, a wealth of information. This includes not only geographical detail, despite the imperfect depiction of relief, but also historical detail, through the abundance of 'words and signs' informing us about the state of France on the eve of Revolution. Concerning the rendering of relief, criticism arose very early on, and Cassini defended himself arguing that his map was 'geometric' and not 'topographic'.

The book published by Conspiracy is thus a fundamental work, as much a work of art as a work tool for researchers or the curious. But, given its format and scarcity, it seems obvious that recourse to online images such as Gallica's or the David Rumsey Map Collection's uncoloured copies, will remain necessary whenever one wants to zoom on this or that sector of the map and track down details that are barely visible on the map in its original format and on which the colour sometimes somewhat hides the details.

Conspiracy Éditions, aware that this book cannot have a very large clientele due to its cost and size, and because few individuals wish to own the complete collection of Cassini maps and are more generally inclined to focus only on those relating to their region, are offering the sale of each individual sheet, on an order basis, at a price between EUR 30 and 290, depending on the sheet. It is thus possible to have at home a high-quality reproduction of a sheet of the Cassini map in colour, at a time when second-hand originals have become uncommon and reach prices up to EUR 900, depending on the region.

This book is certainly a landmark work in publishing and will remain indispensable due to its text and its presentation illustrations, adding to the work of Monique Pelletier and others on 'the Cassini' and their saga. Indispensable as well for its rich 'reconstructed' legend, on which the authors have performed remarkable research, even though a few 'signs and words' have slipped among the thousands that the map contains.



Fig. 1. The nine locks of the Canal Royal or Canal du Midi in Béziers

The author of this report, in a personal 'hunt', was able to discover new ones: such as the salt camels in Le Croisic, the Fonsérane locks in Béziers on the Canal des Deux-Mers (Fig. 1), tide mills in Morbihan (Fig. 2), or even an ice house on the Plan de Canjuers and a pitch factory between Marseille and Toulon, undoubtedly linked to the caulking of ships in these two port cities. There are others too and certainly more still to come as in-depth examination of the map proves fruitful.



Fig. 2. The tide mill of Ludré, Morbihan, one of the oldest in Brittany.

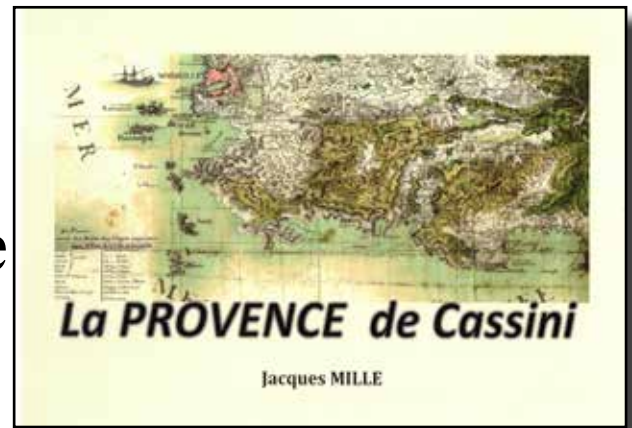
In the end, this is a truly exceptional work that any library or cultural institution should own, in France of course but also abroad. It will remind us of the historical and heritage interest of Cassini's map, the first in the world to cover an entire nation on a large scale and in a civil framework, thus putting it at the service of the public.



Jacques Mille
jacques.mille2@wanadoo.fr

La Provence de Cassini

Regards sur la Provence à la fin du XVIII^e siècle (1775-1780) avec les cartes de Cassini



[Cassini's Provence. Looking at Provence at the end of the 18th century (1775-1780) with Cassini's maps]

by Jacques Mille

- 128 pages, in French, 140 colour illustrations, hard cover, 30.5 × 21.5 cm
- Marseille, Jacques Mille, 2024
- ISBN 978-2-38235-274-8, EUR 30.00

Jacques Mille is well known to readers of *Maps in History* for his various works, notably his impressive book on the Avignon Chart, dating from the early fourteenth century¹ and more recently for that on Plans and Maps of Provence and Languedoc².

This time, he presents the map of the Kingdom of France known as the Carte de Cassini [Cassini's Map], also known as the Carte de l'Académie, drawn up during the second half of the eighteenth century, at a scale of 1:86 400, in 182 sheets. He does not repeat its history, already superbly studied by Monique Pelletier and currently the subject of a complete edition by Jean-Luc Arnaud³. Mille here makes available to the public about fifteen sheets of the map of his home region (Provence, Alps and Côte d'Azur) taken from his personal collection, limiting himself to briefly retracing the origins of the general map, its chronology, creation, scope, uses and outcome⁴.

Mille insists on a new feature of the map. Until Cassini's time, maps generally depicted a province,

an administrative or religious region and featured sometimes sumptuous cartouches indicating the territory represented, the author, the recipient and sometimes the scale. Here, none of that: a rather austere map, originally mostly in black and white, geometrically divided into 65 × 95 cm sheets (i.e. 50 × 80 km), without regard for geographical and historical realities. This explains, for example, the situation of Marseille straddling two sheets or the difficulty of reading some toponyms cut in the middle, vertically or even horizontally! The map of the Austrian Netherlands drawn up by Ferraris, from 1771 to 1777, presents this same division. Ferraris' initial map, at a scale of 1:11 520 and in 275 sheets (also remarkable on several accounts), was certainly military and therefore secret, but it had a 'merchant' version at scale 1:86 400 that its author designated as an 'extension' of the Cassini map⁵.

The illustrations in Mille's work present very different aspects, giving the impression that they do not belong to the same set. It is true that it took about 40 years to complete the Cassini map! This period of time explains the variety of colours. The colouring was done at the request of buyers and was therefore carried out via booksellers (some of

1 Reviewed in *Maps in History* No 71 (September 2021), pp. 4-7.

2 Reviewed in *Maps in History* No 79 (May 2024), pp. 8-11.

3 *La Carte de Cassini*, dir J.-L. Arnaud, Conspiration Éditions, 2024. See review in this same issue, pages 7-8

4 For sectors not covered by the presented extracts, see <https://gallica.bnf.fr>, Carte de Cassini > Accès par région

5 *Le Grand Atlas de Ferraris. Le premier atlas de la Belgique*, bilingual edition FR-NL, introduction W. Bracke and I. Vanden Berghe, Racine-Lannoo, 2017.

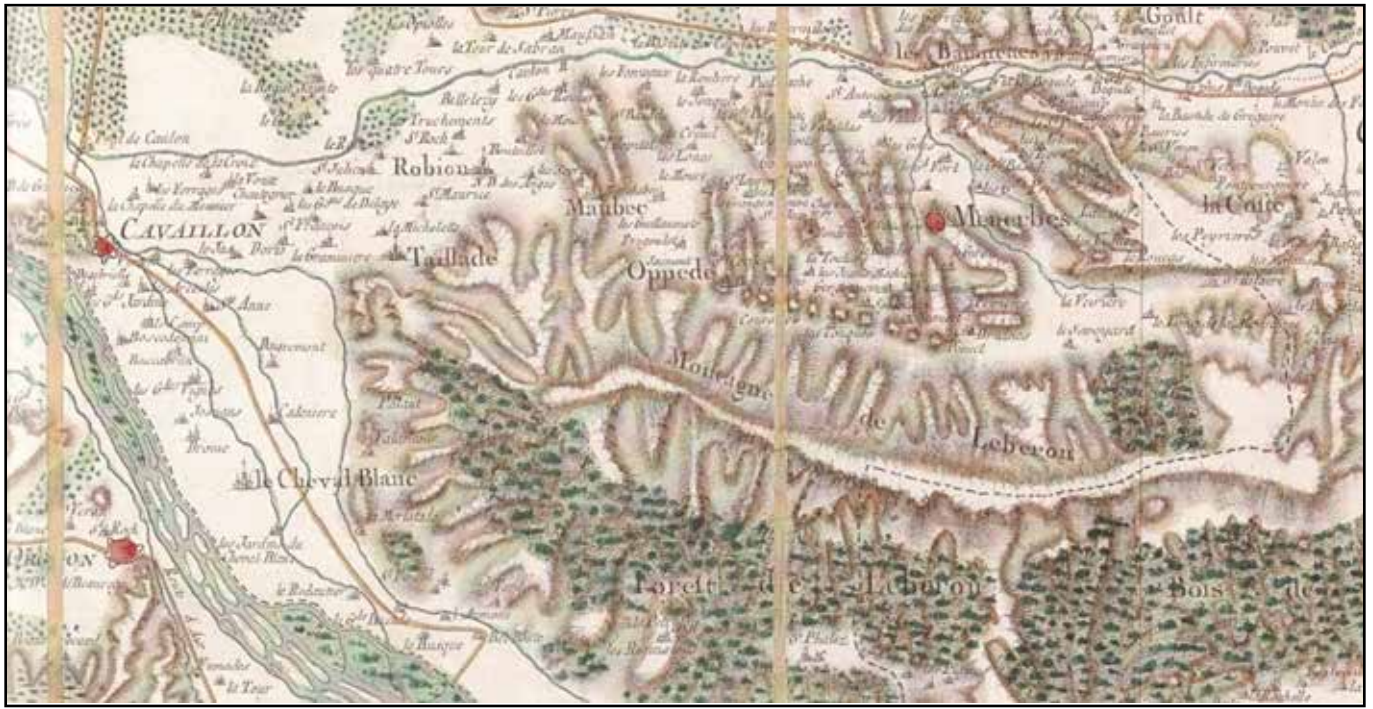


Fig. 2. Le Luberon massif, between the Combe de Lourmarin gorge and Taillade

whose identification labels are reproduced) by a large number of colourists, working in different ways, with more or less care and respect for the reference instructions.

Another feature is the absence of a legend⁶. Readers were supposed to be familiar with the symbols used: those for roads, rivers, villages, houses, mills, chapels, abbeys, woods, rocks, etc. on their own. Fortunately, symbols have a certain homogeneity throughout the map.

Moreover, why this Cassini map? Surely not for military purposes as the army had its own maps. Probably then for the greatness of France and its King; to locate oneself, to a certain extent; people rarely moved around; roads are not even systematically traced. In addition, the relief is vaguely represented by hachures, taking into account neither slope nor altitude (Fig. 2). Furthermore, Cassini's engineers do not seek accuracy for places without human presence. Major peaks are therefore not mentioned, such as the Écrins (at the time the highest point of the Kingdom of France and consequently of the large region between the Alps and the coast) or Mont Ventoux (present on the map, but almost imperceptibly!). On the other hand, some maps are detailed and accurate, criss-crossed by paths, with many toponyms (capes, coves, rocks, ports, reefs, etc.), like the sheet featuring the Hyères islands (Fig. 3). Some towns, such as Cassis or Brignoles, are even represented as plans.

The sheets arranged in order give a map impressive in size (11 metres wide by 12 metres high!) and with a certain uniformity in symbols. As the first detailed representation of the entire Kingdom, it is a true living picture of France at the end of the Ancien Régime and in the pre-industrial age. Landscapes appear in their variety (forests, marshes, vineyards, pastures, etc.). Economic activities are symbolised or noted: wind and water mills, tile factories, forges, glassworks, quarries, ice houses, and even a pitch factory. It is therefore, as a reflection of traditional activities, a real treasure of the past and a mine of information to be exploited by geographers, geologists, historians, archivists, genealogists and... mapmakers!

To complete his book, Mille presents a few sheets of the map on other places in France, such as Oléron island, the Auvergne volcanoes, Mont Saint-Michel Bay, Paris, the very high valley of Ubaye with its surrounding 'inaccessible' summits. This is a great way to highlight the richness of the map. He also presents some other late eighteenth-century maps of Provence, notably a reduction of the Cassini map produced by Louis Capitaine. Its south-eastern part shows no relief, only a few forests, but roads are well marked and above all we discover a first state of the new administrative division. Finally, Mille presents beautiful and precise maps of territories outside the Cassini map, because they were not then part of France: the County of Nice, Haute Vésudie and the Principality of Monaco which extended as far as Menton.

⁶ On this, see Jacques Mille's article in this same issue, pages 12-16

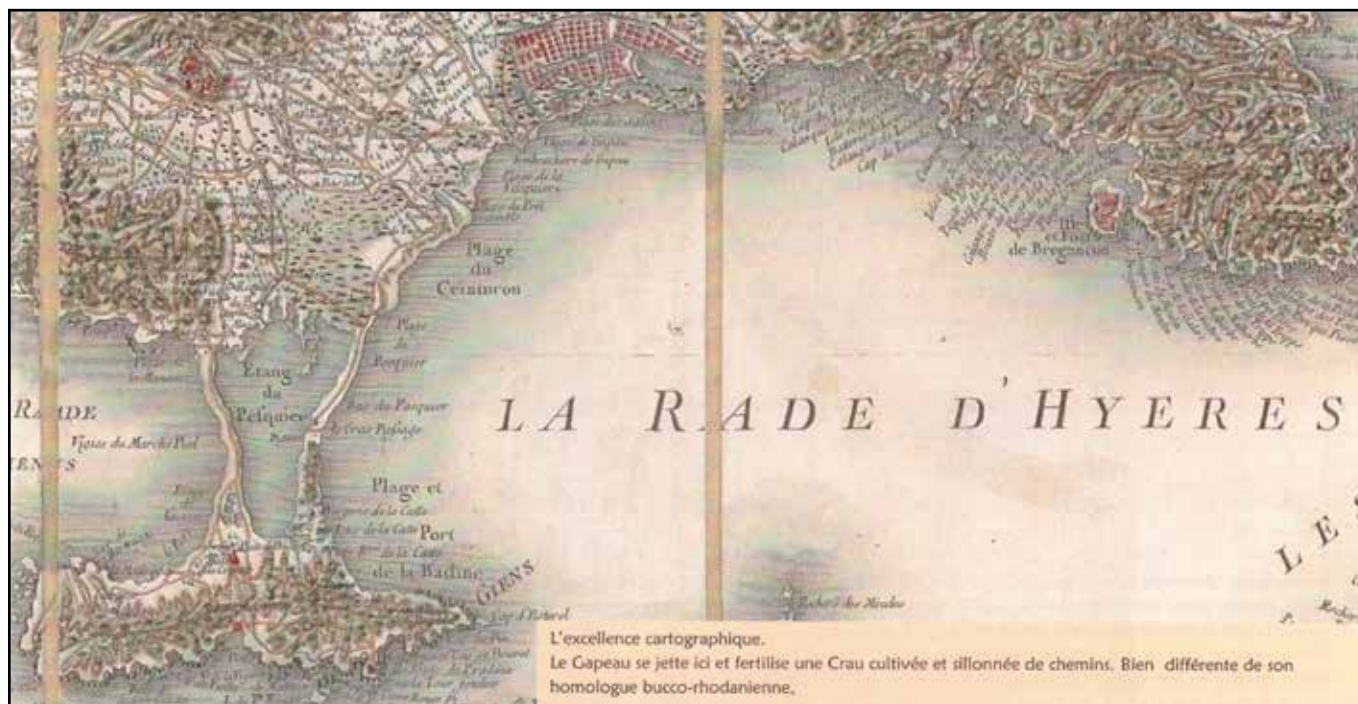


Fig. 3. Hyères, with its Crau and salt pans; the peninsula of Giens, Brégançon, Cape Bénat and Bormes... without les mimosas, not yet arrived at the Côte d'Azur!

The Kingdom of France in general and Provence in particular were therefore mapped in detail by the end of the eighteenth century, but a map is always a victim of time. Cassini's map, despite its great longevity and the immense services it provided, was finally replaced by the Carte d'État-Major, at a scale of 1:80 000, drawn up between 1832 and 1878. The latter was in turn replaced by maps at other scales, in particular those at 1:25 000 by the IGN (Institut géographique national – since 2012 Institut national de l'information géographique et forestière), which are still published nowadays.

In conclusion, we must praise the work of Jacques Mille, who highlights the richness of the Cassini map, 'the first in the world to represent, on a large scale and with a wealth of detail, an entire Nation'. His book allows us to read it intelligently, capturing the wealth of information it contains.



Fig. 4. The twin towns of Beaucaire and Tarascon, facing each other across the Rhône.



Fig. 5. Avignon with neatly drawn walls



Christiane De Craecker-Dussart
c.decraecker@skynet.be



Tableau de la France Divisé Par Gouvernements et Provinces, Pour Servir à l'Assemblage et à l'Intelligence des 180 Cartes levées Géométriquement par Ordre du Roi, et Publiées par Mrs. de l'Académie

Drawn up by Mr Dupain -Triel Fils, Engineer-Geographer of the King. Year 1782.

Author's collection.

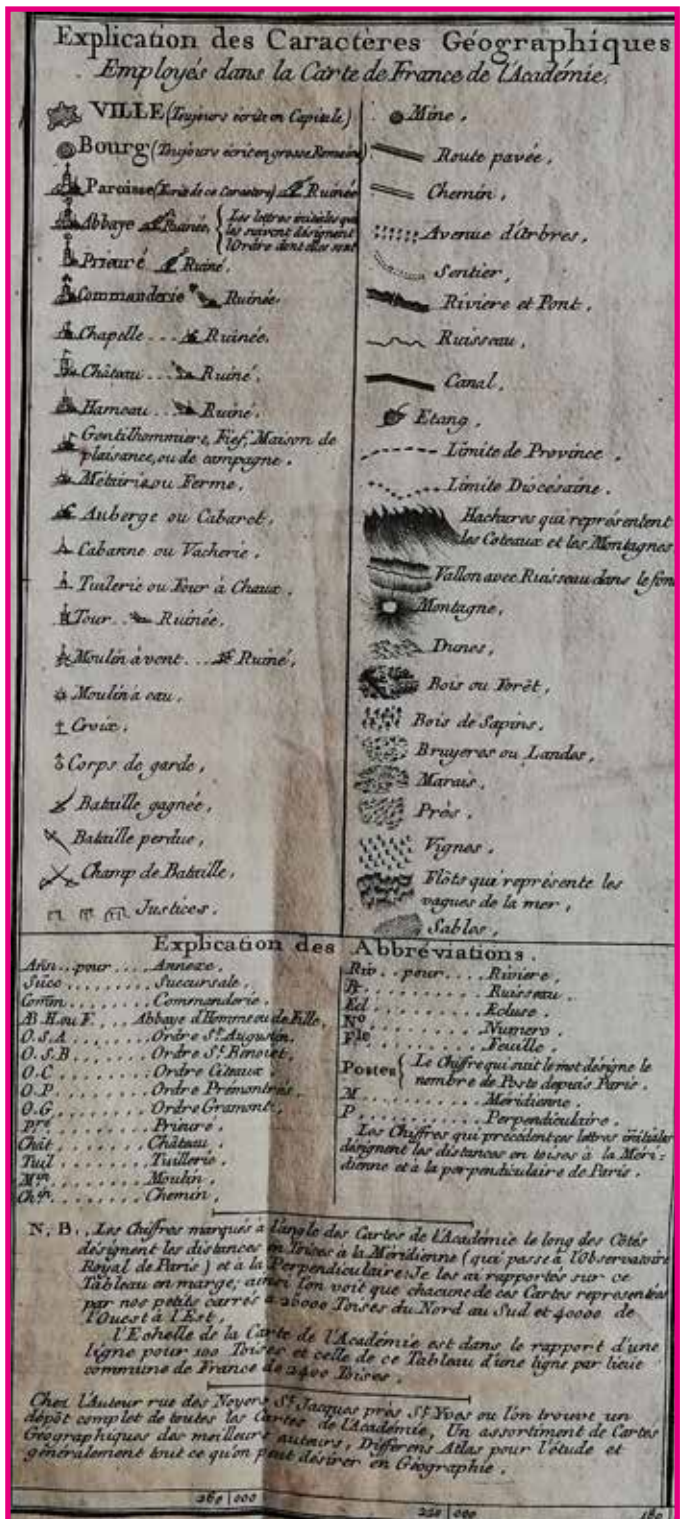


Fig. 1. Explication des Caractères Géographiques Employés dans la Carte de France de l'Académie. Detail of the map reproduced in figure 3. Author's collection.

Dupain-Triel Fils, the true author of the legend of the Cassini map

... an uncertainty resolved

Summary

Both *La carte de Cassini* recently published by Conspiration Éditions¹ and *La Provence de Cassini* authored by Jacques Mille², which are the subjects of *Looks at Books* in this issue of *Maps in History*, report the absence of a legend accompanying the sheets of Cassini's map of France, aside from that found in an index map and attributed to Jean-Claude Dezauche by Monique Pelletier in her work *La carte de Cassini. L'extraordinaire aventure de la carte de France*³.

Jean-Luc Arnaud, in his research work for the presentation of the map for Conspiration Éditions, also points out the absence of a legend and follows Pelletier with regard to Dezauche, indicating that he searched in vain for the mentioned index map which thus seems to have been lost, as it is 'not found at the BnF or elsewhere'.

The present article sheds light on this legend and attributes it, without doubt, to a different mapmaker: Dupain-Triel Fils, who indeed included it in a map entitled *Tableau de la France Divisé Par Gouvernements et Provinces, Pour Servir à l'Assemblage et à l'Intelligence des 180 Cartes levées Géométriquement par Ordre du Roi, et Publiées par Mrs. de l'Académie* that he signed and dated 1782. Two extant copies of this map are identified.

Introduction

As Pelletier writes in each edition of her cited work, no legend accompanied Cassini's maps, which were teeming with information in the form of signs in addition to a multitude of toponyms and textual indications.

Likewise Jean-Luc Arnaud, in his presentation of the monumental book from *Conspiration Éditions* that reproduces all the maps in the possession of the Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF), makes the same remark, thus justifying the development of his own very complete legend that facilitates the reading of the maps presented.

On Cassini's maps one can easily distinguish windmills and watermills through meaningful signs, and one often reads specific terms such as Tileworks, Forge, Paper mill and Factory. Furthermore letter size and font convey the relative importance of places, from PARIS in bold Roman capitals to the smallest named places, such as *Coulagnes Hautes* in the depths of the Margeride, in lowercase italics. Notwithstanding, many of the maps' figurative signs are open to interpretation due to a lack of legend.

It is known that Cassini III de Thury, who directed the drafting of the map, had given instructions to the geographical engineers surveying the map as regards the use of particular signs, essentially taken from provincial map legends and therefore known. And that he had left them some freedom of representation and personal formulation. We therefore have no 'official' or 'general' legend for the many signs and abbreviations that the maps contain. However, we are aware of a fairly complete legend (entitled *Explication...*), published by François de Dainville in 1964⁴, cited and reproduced by Monique Pelletier in her three editions, which she attributes to Jean-Claude Dezauche⁵. This legend appeared, according to Pelletier, on a map assembling the sheets, intended to show the progress of the mapping project by mentioning the sheets already published as well as those remaining to be published. But her book does not provide any reproduction of the map in question and, in the box containing this legend, neither the name of Dezauche

1 *La carte de Cassini* (Mhère: Conspiration Éditions, 2024)

2 Jacques Mille, *La Provence de Cassini. Regards sur la Provence à la fin du XVIIIe siècle (1775-1780) avec les cartes de Cassini* (Marseille: Jacques Mille, 2024)

3 Monique Pelletier, *La carte de Cassini. L'extraordinaire aventure de la carte de France* (Paris: Presses de l'Ecole nationale des Ponts et Chaussées, 1990).

This fundamental work was republished in pocket format at CTHS in 2002: Monique Pelletier, *Les cartes des Cassini. La science au service de l'État et des régions* (Paris: Éditions du CTHS, 2002) reviewed in BIMCC Newsletter No 15 (Jan. 2003). Then in 2013, again at CTHS, in a revised and corrected edition with a slightly modified title in which 'régions' were replaced by 'provinces'.

4 François de Dainville, *Le langage des géographes* (Paris: A. et J. Picard, 1964), plate XX. Reprinted (with new prefaces by Helene Richard et al.) - Paris: CTHS, 2018

5 Pelletier, *La carte de Cassini*, page 186 of the 1990 edition, pages 224-225 of the 2002 edition and 246-247 of the 2013 edition.

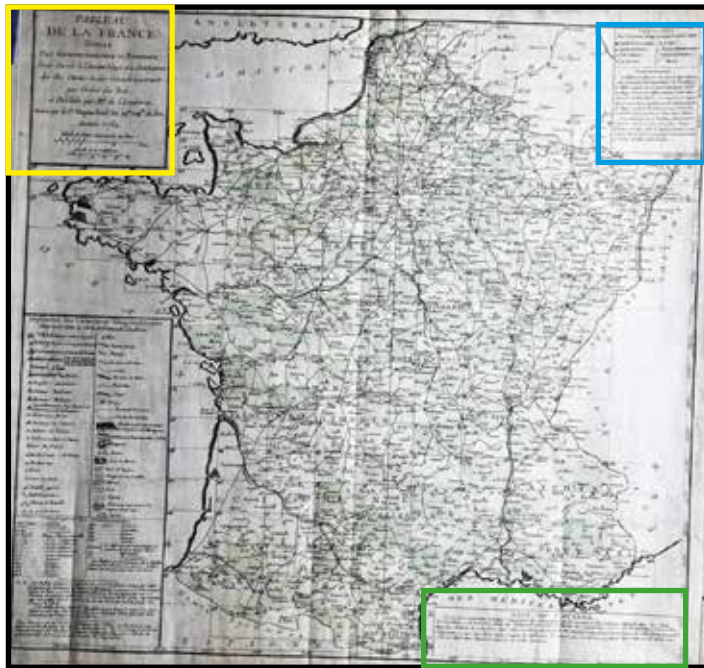


Fig. 3. Tableau de la France... Pour Servir à l'Assemblage et à l'Intelligence des 180 Cartes levées Géométriquement par Ordre du Roi, et Publiées par M.rs de l'Académie. Dressé par le S.r Dupain-Triel Fils Inge.eur Géog.phe du Roi. Année 1782. [Table of France... To Enable the Assembly and Understanding of the 180 Maps Geometrically Surveyed by Order of the King, and Published by the gentlemen of the Academy. Drawn up by Mr Dupain-Triel Fils, Engineer-Geographer of the King. Year 1782.] Author's collection.

These data alone, resulting from the close reading of the legend, and independently of any other information, should have encouraged Monique Pelletier to conduct more in-depth research, which would have allowed her to discover the maps by Dupain-Triel Fils that are clearly signed and dated at the same address indicated at the bottom of the legend that she reproduced in her three books. And then, to realise that the said Dupain-Triel Fils had worked for ten years for César François Cassini III de Thury, from 1765 to 1775, whereas Dezauche had never been employed by the Cassini company, nor had he signed his maps 'près St Yves'.

At this stage this article could stop to conclude that the attribution of the Cassini map legend to Dezauche is more than problematic. But the knowledge of the two extant maps mentioned above (fig. 3) allows us to push the investigation further, arrive at certainties and remove any doubt that Dupain-Triel Fils was the author of the legend. This is an index map that illustrates the division into regular rectangular sections as well as the initial numbering of the Cassini map. The title of the index map (fig. 4) leaves no ambiguity: it was drawn up by Dupain-Triel Fils. Its date of 1782 is consistent with the progress of the project at the time: 149 maps had been published (numbering on the right, the last being sheet 20 bis Puigcerdà), two were pending (Cahors and Aurillac), and the rest, mainly in the south-west and in Brittany, was still to come.

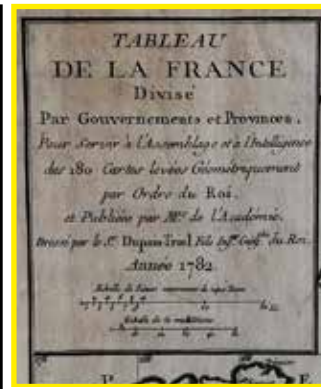


Fig. 4. Title of the index map



Fig. 6. Continuation of the Explication (legend) and Avertissement (notice)



Fig. 5. Author's note on the map

Furthermore, in an author's note (fig. 5), Dupain-Triel Fils explains that he has attached to the map 'the explanation of the abbreviations and geographical characters used in the Academy's Maps', to which he personally contributed. This allows us to conclusively attribute him the authorship of the legend, discarding those proposed by Dainville and by Pelletier.

As already mentioned, aside from the copy of Dupain-Triel Fils' map in my collection there are two others in Bordeaux and Bern. The three are identical (except for some hand-colouring in the Bern copy) and in none of them does the legend have any kind of stamp.

Free translation of the author's note (see Fig. 5):

It seemed important to me to give the explanation of the abbreviations and the geographical characters used in the Academy's Maps, it will be found attached to the present "Table" made for the purchasers of this precious work; it is all the easier for me to satisfy them on this occasion that after having been employed for a long time in the preparation of this Map as an Engineer I am able to give an account of the different Provinces that I have surveyed or engraved. I have been kindly entrusted with a repository in which beautiful proofs are found.

However, the reproductions of the legend given by Pelletier all have a red stamp at the bottom of the table; on the right on the 1990 and 2002 editions and shifted to the left on that of 2013. This would therefore imply that Pelletier had access to two different, yet to be found exemplars of Dupain-Triel Fils' map. The reproduction in Dainville has no stamp, but he allegedly took it from 'Bibl. Serv. Hydrog.', without reference, which would mean a fifth copy is to be located there.

Biographical notes

Jean-Louis Dupain-Triel (1722–1808).

He was a man of letters and map engraver, an auditor in the service of the Cassini company from 1763, albeit of modest contribution. He had a shop 'Cloître Notre Dame', which became 'Enclos de la Raison' in 1795. He probably helped his son (whose first name we do not have, perhaps also Jean-Louis?) to be hired in 1765 by the Cassini Company.

Dupain-Triel fils (son of the former) (ca 1746–1782).

Raised and educated in his father's profession — as was common at the time — as engraver, he completed his training as engineer-geographer and was employed as such by Cassini, verifying and surveying numerous maps on his behalf between 1765 and 1775. His first name was likely Jean-Louis, same as his father, based on mentions in Cassini records, but he always signed his maps as 'Dupain-Triel Fils'. He then settled in 'Rue des Noyers, près rue St Jacques et St Yves' where, from 1780, he produced and sold maps, including those of the Academy of which he had the deposit. His store was close to that of Dezauche, in the same Rue des Noyers, hence the need for both to provide details about their respective locations.

Known cartographic works:

- 1772 Plan of Toulouse, with De la Lande, sold 'chez l'Auteur, à Paris Marché Palu, près Petit Châtelet'.
- 1780 Map of Vivarais (geological, with volcanoes), 'Rue des Noyers près St Yves, pour Giraud Soulavie'.
- 1780 (circa) Plan of Bourges.
- 1781 Map of Berry, 'Rue des Noyers près St Yves'.
- 1782 Physical and hydrographic map of France, 'Rue des Noyers près St Yves'.
- 1782 Tableau de la France... *Pour Servir à l'Assemblage et à l'Intelligence des 180 cartes... de l'Académie*, 'Rue des Noyers St Jacques près St Yves'.

The maps by the Dupain-Triel (father and son) are of great interest because they attest to a pioneering geographical approach that includes the mention of altitudes, testing of contour lines, inland navigation and first-hand geographical research. However, no monograph has been devoted to them even though the father is a little better known than the son.

Jean-Claude Dezauche (1745–1829), engineer-geographer.

established in 1770. Heir in 1780 to "Delisle's and Buache's fund", which he marketed. First engraver, then prolific producer and publisher of maps (more than 300) and atlases until his death. Store at Rue des Noyers; more precisely, between 1780 and 1782, at 'Rue des Noyers près les Anglais', during which period he produced five maps: India, the Antilles, Berry, China and Poitou.



Jacques Mille
jacques.mille2@wanadoo.fr

The editions and states of Lacaille's 'Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance'

In 1751, the French Royal Academy of Sciences (Académie Royale des Sciences) sent Nicolas Louis de Lacaille (also spelled La Caille, 1713–1762) to the Cape of Good Hope (hereafter 'the Cape'). His mission was to fix the positions of the brightest southern stars, to observe the parallax of the moon and accurately determine the position of Cape Town¹.

Lacaille's posthumous *Journal Historique* described his sojourn and his astronomical and geodetic projects at the Cape; it also included commentary on the people and natural history of the region and a small map². A prominent part of the *Journal* was the geodetic survey he conducted, the first, after the occupation of the Cape in 1652 by the Dutch Vereenigde Oostindische Compagnie (VOC). The British took final control of the Cape Colony in 1806 and it was only in the 1840s that they conducted another geodetic survey.

Only recently has attention been given to Lacaille's contribution to cartography³. Lacaille's map of the Cape is notable for the record of his triangulation survey and also because of its influence on numerous European cartographers⁴.

In this article, I describe the editions and states of Lacaille's map of the Cape of Good Hope (summarised in Table 1) and their publication; present the manuscript map upon which the first edition of the map probably was modelled; highlight the accuracies and some prominent inaccuracies on the map; and, finally, I consider the importance of this small map in the history of mapping the Cape of Good Hope..

Mémoires de Mathématique & de Physique

The 'CARTE | du Cap | de Bonne | Espérance | et de ses | Environs. | 1752.' (hereafter *the Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance*) was first published in 1755 by the Royal Printers in Paris.

This map illustrated Lacaille's article on the geodetic survey he conducted in 1752 at the Cape of Good Hope⁵. However, despite the date of the survey and publication of his article⁶, the map was included in the octavo volume of the Academy's 1751 edition of the *Histoire de l'Académie Royale des Sciences* (with the *Mémoires de Mathématique & de Physique* – hereafter *Mémoires*).



Fig. 1. Nicolas-Louis de Lacaille (1713–1762), clergyman, mathematician and astronomer.

1 Roland Raven-Hart, *Nicolas Louis de la Caille. Travels at the Cape 1751–53* (Cape Town: A.A. Balkema, 1976), p. 4. This small book is 'An annotated translation of the *Journal Historique* ... into which has been interpolated relevant passages from *Memoires*'

2 Nicolas-Louis De la Caille and Claude Carlier (editor), *Journal historique du voyage fait au Cap de Bonne-Espérance* (Paris: Guillyn, 1763) and (Paris: Nyon, 1776). The book has been scanned by the University of Pretoria and is available at <https://repository.up.ac.za/handle/2263/12674>. See also <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k1043867/f254.item>

3 Roger Stewart, 'Nicolas-Louis de Lacaille: pioneer of scientific cartography in Southern Africa', *Maps in History* 66 (January 2020), pp 29–33.

4 Roger Stewart, 'A mystery resolved. Lacaille's map of the Cape of Good Hope', *IMCoS Journal* 119 (2009), pp. 7–11.

5 CARTE du Cap de Bonne Espérance et de ses Environs. 1752. In *Diverses Observations Astronomiques et Physiques, faites au Cap de Bonne Espérance. Pendant les années 1751*;

6 the date of the survey, 1752, and the publication in 1755 of the 1751 edition

	Title	Engraver or Mapmaker	Publication	Author	Publisher	Place	Date	Feature
1	Untitled	De la Caille	-	Lacaille		Cape Town	c. 1752	Manuscript map
2	CARTE du Cap de Bonne Espérance. et de ses Environs. 1752	J Ingram	Histoire et Mémoires de l'Académie Royales des Sciences \ Avec les mémoires des Mathématique et Physique M. CCLI (1751)	Lacaille	De l'Imprimerie Royale	Paris	1755	Signed; page 456
3	CARTE du Cap de Bonne Espérance. et de ses Environs. 1752	Anonymous, after Ingram	Seconde Suite des Mémoires de Mathématique et Physique tirés des registres de l'Académie Royale des Sciences M.CCLI (1751)	Lacaille	J Schreuder et Pierre Mortier	Amsterdam	1758	unsigned page 694
4	CARTE du Cap de Bonne Espérance et de ses Environs.	M Dupin, 1st state	Journal historique du voyage fait au Cap de Bonne Espérance...	Lacaille (Claude Carlier)	Guillyn	Paris	1763	page 356
5	CARTE du Cap de Bonne Espérance et de ses Environs.	M Dupin, 2nd state	Journal historique du voyage fait au Cap de Bonne Espérance...	Lacaille (Claude Carlier)	Nyon l'ainé	Paris	1776	page 111
6	CARTE du Cap de Bonne Espérance et de ses Environs.	M Dupin 2nd state	Atlas universel pour l'étude de la géographie et de l'histoire ancienne et moderne	Philippe de Prétot	Nyon l'ainé	Paris	1787	page 111
7	CARTE du Cap de Bonne Espérance et de ses Environs.	M Dupin 3rd state	uncertain	uncertain	uncertain	Paris	unsure	page 91
8	CARTE du Cap de Bonne Espérance et de ses Environs.	M Dupin	unbound map	Dupin	unknown	Paris	1763?	unbound

Table 1 : Lacaille's printed maps

Ingram Engraving (1755)

John Ingram (1721– ca 1767), an Englishman living in Paris, engraved and signed the copperplate for this rare first edition of Lacaille's 'Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance' (fig. 2). The small map of the south-western Cape of Good Hope extends from St. Helens Baay (now St. Helena Bay) in the north-west to Hanglip (now Hangklip) in the south-east, a diagonal distance of approximately 230 km. The page with the map has no folds and the map is 14.7 cm wide and 19.6 cm high. There are two inscriptions outside the neatline: the printer's instructions: 'Mem. de l'Ac. R. des Sc. 1751. Pag. 456. Pl. 24', at the top right; and 'J. Ingram Sculp.', the engraver's signature at the bottom left. The distance bar, in *toises*, is at the bottom right of the map within the neatline; the scale is approximately 1: 1 000 000.

The most prominent and famous feature of Lacaille's map is its geodetic record: the date of his survey, which is captured in the title; the geodetic triangles and the result recorded above the scale bar, viz. 57 037 *toises* (111 165 km). The latter was the length of Lacaille's arc of the meridian across one degree of latitude through his observatory in Strand Street, about 600 metres north-west of Cape Town's Castle of Good Hope. The geodetic record is also known for its error that implied a slightly pear-shaped Earth⁷. This error was caused by Lacaille's failure to account for the effect of gravitation of nearby mountains on the plumb bob (the libe was off vertical because the plum bob at the end of his plumb line was attracted to the mountains). This effect was most significant on his latitudes at the northern points of his large survey triangle (at the bases of Piketberg and Table Mountain, respectively)⁸.

Lacaille's map is also notable for its mainly Dutch toponymy, although the title is in French. One Dutch place name, the 'Norwegen berg,' on the west coast of the Cape Peninsula, was not widely adopted and, therefore, is uncommon on maps of the region. The name appears on both François Valentijn's and Peter Kolbe's maps. The latter's map was similar to Valentijn's; it was published posthumously, in the Dutch edition of his book, the year after Valentijn's map was published.^{9 10}



Fig. 2. John Ingram engraved the first edition of 'Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance et de ses Environs 1752.' (Roger Stewart's collection).

7 Ian Glass, Nicolas-Louis De La Caille; Astronomer and Geodesist (Oxford University Press, 2012), pp. 80–83

8 Ibidem, p. 150

9 Anonymous, 'Caarte van de Colonie van de Kaap' (38.5 × 30 cm). In Peter Kolbe, *Naaukeurige en Uitvoerige beschryving van de Kaap de Goede Hoop; behelzende een zeer omstandig verhaal van den tegenwoordigen toestand van dat vermaarde gewest ...* (Amsterdam: Balthazar Lakeman, 1727).

10 Petrus Serton, ed., *Beschryvinge van de Kaap der Goede Hoop met de Zaaken daar toe*

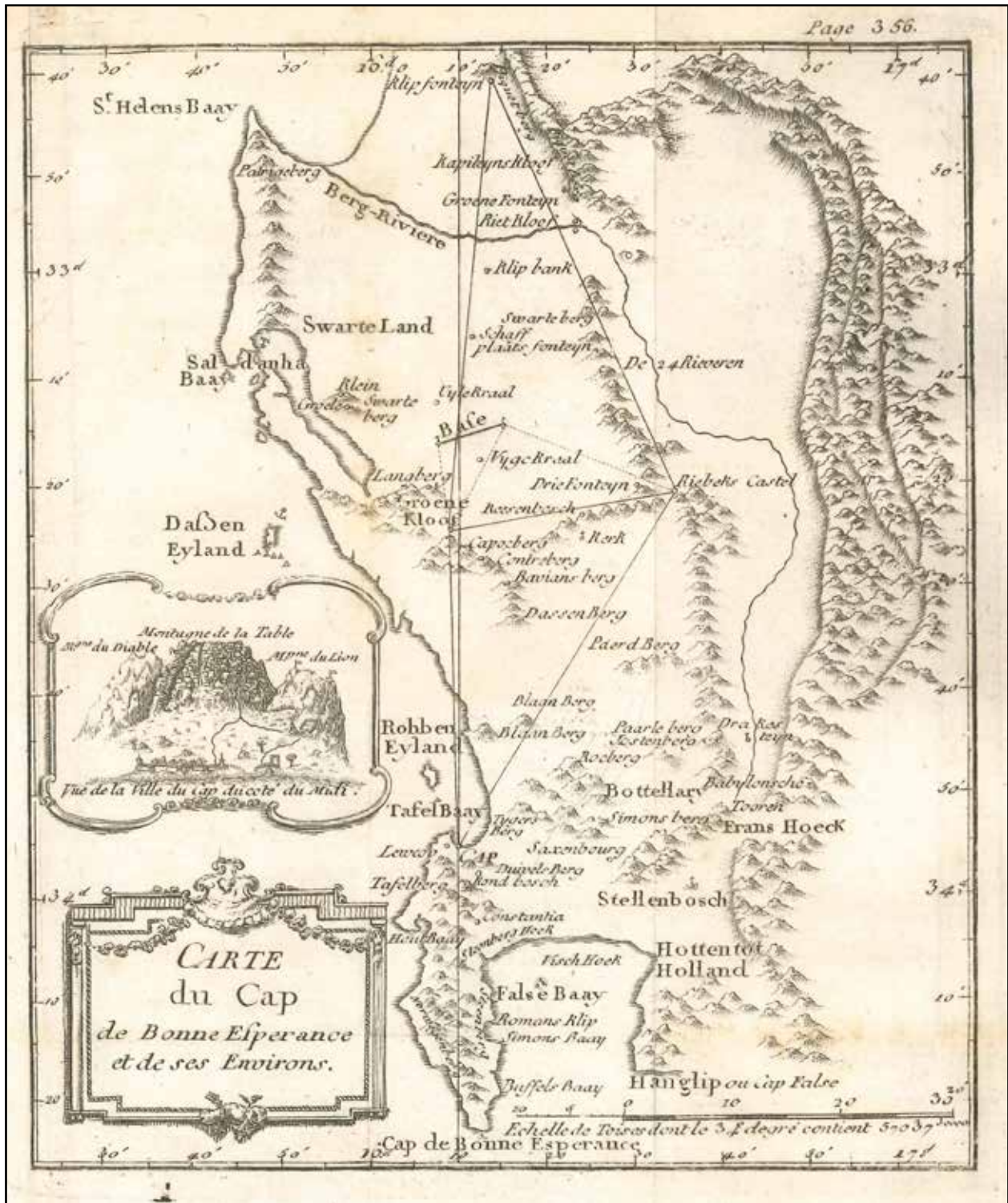


Fig. 3. The first state of M. Dupin's engraving of 'Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance' printed was used for the posthumous *Journal Historique*, 1763 (Reproduced with permission of the Brenthurst Library, Johannesburg).

Anonymous Engraving (1758)

Recently, I acquired a *sextodecimo* second edition of the Academy's 1751 volume of the *Mémoires*, which was published in 1758 by J. Schreuder and Pierre Mortier le jeune in Amsterdam; it included an unsigned, newly engraved map (14.5 cm × 19.6 cm) which is very similar to Ingram's map¹¹.

Pierre Mortier le jeune (Pieter III) was the son of Pieter II, a printer and bookseller in Amsterdam, and nephew of Cornelis Mortier (1699–1783), the partner in the famous map printers and publishers Covens and Mortier¹². Pieter III was not involved in the map or the publication of the *Mémoires* as he was still a minor: his widowed mother had agreed that Jean Schreuder, Pieter II's clerk and agent, could continue the publishing business until 1762, provided it was named 'J. Schreuder et Pierre Mortier le jeune'. From 1762 until about 1771, Schreuder published under his own imprint¹³.

The most obvious differences between the Ingram and anonymous edition of the map in the *Mémoires* are outside the neatline: elimination of Ingram's signature and printer's instruction with a new page number for the smaller format book: 'Mem de l'Ac. 1751. Pl. 24 Pag. 694' (fig. 3).

Additional differences in the 1758 edition are the light weight of the paper and the page with the map folded three times; there are minor changes of the toponymy and a slightly more flamboyant engraving style.

Journal Historique 1763, 1776 & Atlas Universel 1787

Claude Carlier, Lacaille's colleague at the Mazarin College in Paris, edited the text of Lacaille's posthumous journal and added a biographical sketch. The result was the *duodecimo* edition of the *Journal Historique*, which was published in Paris, in 1763 by Guillyn and in 1776 by Nyon l'Ainé.¹⁴ M. Dupin (possibly Dupin le jeune) produced a new engraving of the 'Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance'. This map was included in both editions of *Journal Historique*.

Dupin Engravings 1763 – 1787

M. Dupin engraved two plates with Lacaille's map. One plate was for the small 'CARTE | du Cap | de Bonne Esperance | et de ses environs' illustrated in figure 3. I have not been able to locate an example of Dupin's other engraving of Lacaille's map, which was larger ('format plus grand') and which Dupin sold separately and unbound at 'Rue d'Enfer en la Cité'.¹⁵

The first state of the small map in figure 3 is the best-known edition of Lacaille's maps (#220 in Norwich)¹⁶. The map itself is similar to Ingram's map, but slightly smaller (12.0 cm × 15.5 cm vs. 14.7 cm × 19.6 cm). However, there are prominent decorative differences from the Ingram map (compare figures 2 and 3): the most obvious differences within the neatline are the location and design of the cartouche and Dupin's addition of a tiny, crude prospect of Cape Town: *Vue de la Ville du Cap coté du Midi*. An enlarged format of the prospect was engraved for Sayer and Bennet's English edition of Johannes van Keulen's plan of Table Bay¹⁷.

11 Nicolas-Louis de la Caille, 'CARTE du Cap de Bonne Espérance et de ses Environs. 1752'. In *Diverses Observations Astronomiques et Physiques, faites au Cap de Bonne Espérance Pendant les années 1751 & 1752, partie de 1753. Seconde Suite des Memoires de Mathematique et Physique Tirés des Registres de l'Academie Royale des Sciences de l'Année M D CCLI* (Amsterdam: Chez J Schreuder, et Pierre Mortier le Jeune, 1758), pp. 606 – 695.

12 Josephine French, ed., *Tooley's Dictionary of Mapmakers* (Tring: Map Collector Publications, 2003), K-P, p. 285.

13 Isabella Van Eeghen and Jean Louis de Lorme, J. De Amsterdamse boekhandel 1572 - 1795. (Amsterdam: Scheltema and Holkema, 1978), III, pp. 265-269. Available at https://www.dbnl.org/tekst/eegh004amst04_01/eegh004amst04_01_0158.php.

14 De la Caille and Carlier (editor), note 2.

15 Ibidem, p. xxii

16 Jeffrey Stone, ed, *Norwich's Maps of Africa* (Norwich VA: Terra Nova Press, 2005), map #220.

17 Johannes Van Keulen, 'A PLAN OF TABLE BAY, WITH THE ROAD OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE' from the DUTCH SURVEY Published by JOANNES VAN KEULEN (London: Sayer & Bennet, 1778). This map is #269 in Norwich (see note 18), while the inset is illustrated separately on page 307.

The space where Ingram had engraved his cartouche is blank in Dupin's edition of the map, and the date of the survey is omitted from the title.¹⁸ 'Page 356' is engraved at the top right above the neatline (fig. 4); the length of the arc of the meridian is squeezed into a space below the scale bar at the bottom right of the map; the Berg Rivier is misspelled as Berg-Riviere (which is the plural of Rivier); and Dupin did not sign his engraving.

In a second state of the Dupin edition of the map 'No. III' replaced 'Page 356' at the top right outside the neatline (fig. 4); this state of the map appeared in 1776 in the second edition of the *Journal Historique*, which was published by Nyon l'Ainé. In 1787 Nyon l'Ainé again published the second state of the map in *Atlas Universel* by Etienne André Philippe de Prétot, a royal censor, geographer, and historian at the *Académie*¹⁹

The National Library of South Africa (NLSA) and the author have a third state of Dupin's map, which has 'No. 91' engraved at the top right outside the neatline (fig. 4). Margaret Cartwright, who worked for the NLSA, attributed this state of the map to Philippe de Prétot, but did not state the publication.^{20 21} I have been unable to find the source of this third state of the map in the *Atlas Universel* or in Philippe de Prétot's *Cosmographie Universelle* at the Library of Congress.²² I have concluded that the attribution of the third state of the Dupin edition of the Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance to a publication by Philippe de Prétot must remain speculative, until the source is confirmed.

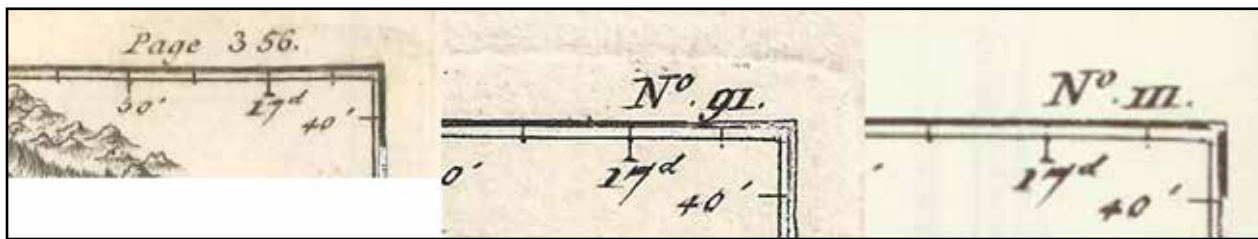


Fig. 4. The three states of the Dupin engraving of 'Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance' are differentiated by the page number at the top right of the map: 1st state: 'Page 356'; 2nd state: 'No. III' and 3rd state: 'No. 91'

18 The title is now 'CARTE du Cap de Bonne Esperance et de ses Environs.' Compare with the Ingram title in figure 1.

19 Etienne Philippe de Prétot, *Atlas universel pour l'étude de la géographie et de l'histoire ancienne et moderne* (Paris: Nyon l'ainé, Rue du Jardinot, 1787). Philippe de Prétot was also known as M. Phillippe.

20 'Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance et de ses environs.' (13 × 15 cm). National Library of South Africa. Shelf No. KHA CPA 1787; catalogue entry at <http://goo.gl/LWgYXu>. NLSA's reference was The A.E. Nordenskiöld collection / A.M. Mickwitz, 1981, v. 2, p. 141.

21 M. Cartwright, *Maps of the South Western Cape of Good Hope* (Cape Town: South African Library, 1992), map 68.

22 Etienne Philippe de Prétot, *Cosmographie Universelle, Physique et Astronomique, pour l'étude de tous les âges de l'histoire ...* (Paris, 1768). Library of Congress Call Number: G1015. P52 1768 G&M Vault.

Other Editions 1755, 1778, 1825

Translations

Similar small maps were engraved for two translations of Lacaille's work (fig. 5).

In the year that Lacaille's report to the Academy was published, John Gibson engraved a copy of the Ingram map that was used in *Gentleman's Magazine* to illustrate an English summary of Lacaille's article on the geodetic survey²³. An anonymous, new engraving of Dupin's map was published in 1778 for a German translation of the *Journal Historique*²⁴



Fig. 5a The Gibson edition - Nov. 1755.



Fig. 5b. The German Edition- 1778



Fig. 6. The Lattré Edition- 1769
(© Gallica-Bnf - see URL 24-Bnf)

Lattré edition

In 1769 Jean Lattré engraved a large, richly annotated map of Africa: 'L'Afrique divisée en ses principaux Etats. Assujettie aux Observations Astronomique. Par le Sr. Janvier Géographe' (64.0 cm × 47.5 cm).²⁵

The map included two inset maps by Lacaille: 'Carte Particulière du Cap de Bone (sic) Espérance et de ses environs. Dressée par M. l'Abbé de la Caille', and 'Carte Particulière de l'Isle de France. Dressée par Mr. l'Abbé de la Caille' en 1753'. The inset of the Cape of Good Hope is a copy of the Ingram map but with the aforementioned amended title set in a rectangular cartouche.

23 'A MAP | of the Cape of | GOOD HOPE | & the country adjacent. | 1752.' (11.5 cm × 18.5 cm) In *Gentleman's Magazine*. (London: S. Urban, 1755), opposite page 512.

24 'CHARTE von dem VORGEBÜRGE DER GUTEN HOFNUNG und dem anliegenden Gegenden' (13cm × 15.5cm). In *Des Herrn Abts de la Caille Reise nach dem Vorgebürge der guten Hoffnung. Nebst dem Leben des Verfassers. Aus dem Französischen übersetzt.* (Altenburg: Richter, 1778), 228. Facsimile (Cape Town: Van Riebeeck Society, 1944), III, pp.78-9.

25 'L'Afrique divisée en ses principaux Etats. Assujettie aux Observations Astronomique. Par le Sr. Janvier Géographe' (64.0 cm × 47.5 cm). R.V. Tooley. *Collectors' Guide to Maps of Africa ...* (London: Carta Press, 1969), p. 59. Image available at <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b84690527#>.

Everest edition

In 1820 George Everest (after whom Mt. Everest was named) visited 'the theatre of Lacaille's labours' while recuperating at the Cape Colony from malaria he had contracted in the Indian sub-continent.²⁶ Based on his experience of surveying in the Himalayas, he proposed that Lacaille's measurements of latitude were incorrect due to the effect of gravitation of Table Mountain and Piketberg on his instrument's plumbline. The *Memoirs of the Astronomical Society of London* published his hypothesis, illustrated by the *Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance*, a lithograph drawn by Charles Hullmandel (fig. 6), with a title cartouche below the map.

The map is distinctive for its display of the route Everest travelled in order to understand the terrain and possible cause of the erroneous result of Lacaille's geodetic survey. Between 1841 and 1848 Thomas Maclear, the Astronomer Royal at the Cape, took Everest's lead by performing another geodetic survey. He used more precise equipment, a different baseline and a somewhat enlarged major triangle. His conclusion from the empirical investigation agreed with Everest's theoretical analysis²⁷.



Fig. 6 George Everest's route is displayed on the Hullmandel lithograph of 'Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance'. The route he travelled has been highlighted in red and current place names written by Ian Glass (see note 6).

Untitled manuscript map (M1/166)

The Cape Town Repository of the National Archives of South Africa has an anonymous, untitled, and undated manuscript map of the Cape of Good Hope (M1/166), which is illustrated in figure 7.²⁸ I have been unable to obtain further information on the history of this map.

The MS map is significantly larger than the map printed in the *Mémoires* (23.7 cm × 39.9 cm vs. 14.7 cm × 19.6 cm). A copy was probably the model for Ingram's engraving of 'Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance'.

The MS map records the latitude of Lacaille's Cape Town observatory, 33° 55' 15" S, but not the longitude; the latter scale has tick marks but no units. However, Lacaille's Cape meridian intersects an un-numbered tick mark that is 16° 10' east of Paris on the printed, Ingram map (see Fig. 2).



Fig. 7 Lacaille's manuscript map, M1/166, in the Cape Town Repository of the National Archives of South Africa (reproduced with permission).

²⁶ George Everest, 'On the Triangulation of the Cape of Good Hope', *Memoirs of the Royal Astronomical Society* 1825, I, pt. II, pp. 255-270 and Plate III on p. 310. The article may be viewed and downloaded at <https://shorturl.at/sABX4>. His contracting malaria is described by Mishre and Trikamji in the 'The Medical Maladies of Sir George Everest' ... in the *Indian Journal of History of Science*, 2014, 49.1, 42-49, p. 44 available at https://cahc.jainuniversity.ac.in/assets/ijhs/Vol49_1_5_Kmishra.pdf.

²⁷ Glass, see note 6, pp. 158-167.

²⁸ 'Triangulation map showing the Cape from St. Helena Bay to False Bay. 1752.' National Archives of South Africa, Cape Town Archives Repository (KAB). Reference: M1/166.

Coastline of the Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance

A prominent feature of the MS map is the edited coastline drawn in red, which is followed on the printed map (fig. 2 and 7). These inaccuracies have been illustrated previously²⁹, and I now tabulate their magnitude at prominent places on Lacaille's MS map compared with a modern map used in the earlier illustration (Table 2).³⁰

	LATITUDE (S)			LONGITUDE from Cape		
	MS Map	Actual	Error	MS Map	Actual	Error
Not Surveyed						
Berg River mouth	32° 50'	32° 48'	-3'	15°W	17°W	-2'
N Saldanha	33° 05'	33° 00'	-5'	34°W	29°W	-5'
S Saldanha	33° 20'	33° 12'	-8'	10°W	19°W	-9'
Yzerfontein	33° 20'	33° 12'	-8'	16°W	17°W	-1'
Cape of Good Hope	34° 23'	34° 21'	-2'	3°E	4°E	1'
Hanglip	34° 16'	34° 23'	7'	20°E	25°E	5'
Surveyed						
Hout Bay	34° 03'	34° 03'S	0'	4°W	4°W	0'
Capoc berg	33° 25'	33° 25'	0'	2°W	2°W	0'
Riebek Kastel	33° 21'	33° 22'	0'	25°E	25.2°E	0'
Klip Fonteyn	32° 42'	32° 43'	1'	4°E	4°E	0'

Table 2: The positions (rounded to the nearest minute) of some places on Lacaille's edited MS map (fig. 9) are compared with their true positions. Longitudes on the MS map are referenced to the meridian through Lacaille's observatory in Cape Town. N & S Saldanha are the North and South shores of Saldanha Bay respectively. Yzerfontein is the coastal promontory adjacent to Lacaille's southern shore of Saldanha Bay. Capoc berg, Riebek Kastel & Klip Fonteyn are points on Lacaille's large survey triangles.

Lacaille's coastline on both his edited MS and printed map are significantly inaccurate in the north-west from St. Helena Bay to Saldanha Bay, the west coast south of Hout Bay and most of False Bay (fig. 7 and table 2). There is no record of Lacaille having surveyed the coastline other than having fixed the positions of Cape Town and Hout Bay.³¹

The scale of the MS map does not make it possible to detect smaller errors of the co-ordinates. Lacaille's small errors of latitude were important from a geodetic perspective, but the printed chart's level of accuracy had not been achieved before in the mapping of the Cape of Good Hope. Errors of latitude of 1 minute and of longitude as much as 1 degree were common in maps of the region during the second half of the eighteenth century.³²

There does not seem to be any extant printed or manuscript map, dated before 1752, with a coastline that is similar to Lacaille's original or edited coastline.³³

²⁹ Stewart, see note 3.

³⁰ *South Western Cape* (Special Edition). 1:250 000 (Mowbray: Chief Directorate Surveys and Mapping [now National Geospatial Information], 2000).

³¹ Raven-Hart, see note 1, p. 16.

³² Cornelis Koeman. *Tabulae Geographicae quibus Colonia Bonae Spei antiqua depingitur*. (Amsterdam: N.V. Hollandsche Uitgevers, 1952), pp. 11-17. This publication is in Dutch, Afrikaans and English

³³ See the VOC maps of Southern Africa in Volumes I, V and VII of *Grote Atlas van de Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie* (Voorburg, Netherlands: Atlas Maior, 2009), pp. 205-207, the online catalogues of the Dutch National Archives, at <http://www.gahetna.nl/collectie/afbeeldingen/kaartencollectie> and the Atlas of Mutual Heritage, at <http://www.atlasofmutualheritage.nl/main.aspx?lang=en>.

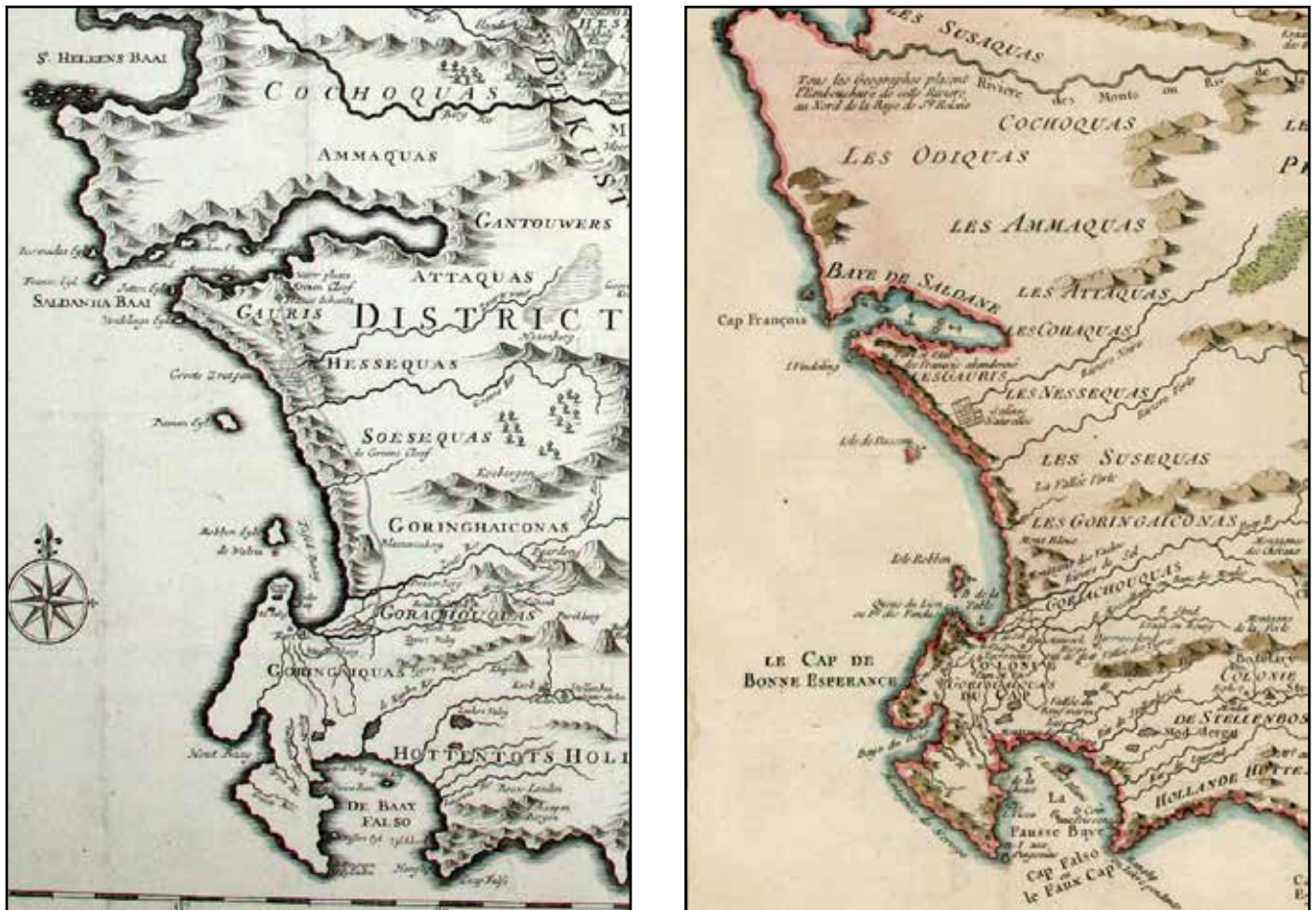


Fig. 8. Grossly distorted coastlines of the maps by Valentyn (1726), left, and Bellin (1748), right (Roger Stewart's collection).

Despite the significant errors, Lacaille's coastline was still much more accurate than the coastlines of maps by Valentyn (1726) and Jacques-Nicolas Bellin (1748) (fig. 8).^{34 35}

There is an anomaly in the toponymy of Lacaille's map. Two mountains at the northern end of Table Bay are named Blaau berg (Blue Mountain); this low mountain does have two peaks, which were named the Blaau Bergen (plural). The more north-eastern of the two mountains on Lacaille's map is Koeberg (Cow Mountain). See Glass's annotation on figure 5.

This error was possibly an oversight because Lacaille would have travelled past the Blaauwbergen and prominent Koeberg during his geodetic survey. Lacaille located Koeberg on his map as a short range of low mountains to the south-east; this is not an error because, rather confusingly, in the eighteenth century, these hills to the north-east of Tygerberg also were known as the Koebergen (plural).³⁶

34 Nieuwe Kaart van Caap der Goede Hoop in hare rechte tegenwoordige staat in François Valentijn, Oud en Nieuw Oost-Indie (Dordrecht and Amsterdam: Johannes van Braam and Gerard onder de Linden, 1724-1726), Volume 5.

35 Jacques Bellin, 'Le pays des Hottentots aux Environs du cap de Bonne Espérance' in Antoine Prévost, Histoire générale des Voyages (Paris: Didot, 1746-1759). Also see Norwich, map #222.

36 Otto Mentzel, A complete and authentic geographical and topographical description of ... the Cape of Good Hope (Cape Town: Van Riebeeck Society, 1944), VRS (volume) 25, pp. 31-32. A translation from the German.

Significance of Lacaille's map of the Cape of Good Hope

Much of Lacaille's coastline was well within tolerable limits for maps of the early 1750s, but not of geodetic accuracy. The only cartographic inaccuracies on his small map that can be considered unacceptable for their time, cartographically and for shipping, are the coastlines at the north-west and south-east limits of his map. Therefore, his coastline errors raise a question about Lacaille's place in the cartography of the region.

Lacaille would not have made the errors if he had surveyed the coast or determined the positions of key places on the north-west and south-east coast. However, surveying the coast and mapping the entire region was not Lacaille's primary objective. It is possible, even likely, that he copied the coastline from a VOC map that has yet to be identified. On the basis of my analysis, I conclude with the suggestion that his map's coastline was possibly an afterthought intended primarily to illustrate topographical context for the triangles of his geodetic survey published in the *Mémoires*. I cannot find evidence to suggest that Lacaille intended from the outset that his entire map would be an accurate, small-scale map of the Cape of Good Hope. This is to be compared with the clear intent of his map of Mauritius, where he conducted a cartographic triangulation survey with the primary intent of producing an accurate map.,^{37 38}

Lacaille's map is of heritage importance because it depicts the beginning of quantitative, experimental science and the beginning of triangulation and geodetic surveying in southern Africa. Do the coastline inaccuracies on his map diminish its status in the history of cartography of the Cape of Good Hope? The answer is no.

Furthermore, despite the inaccuracy of the coastline, his map significantly influenced European cartography of the region and future surveys and mapping in the region.³⁹

Printed maps

The accuracy of Lacaille's 1755 map stands out from the distorted maps of the region published from 1600, such as those by De Bry, Seller, Bellin and Valentyn (fig. 8).⁴⁰ The map also stands out from later printed maps produced until the beginning of the nineteenth century. John Barrow's landmark map of the much-expanded colony was published almost half a century after Lacaille's map.⁴¹ It was not more accurate, because Barrow surveyed under less favourable conditions than Lacaille, he did not have comparable equipment and he was not an accomplished astronomer or cartographer. On the other hand, it did not include Lacaille's obvious coastal errors in the south-west of the colony.

For many years, Lacaille's map was copied or used as a model, in its entirety or in part, in larger and smaller formats, for printed maps by well-known cartographers such as Tirion (1763), Janvier (1769), d'Après de Manneville (1775 and 1781), Bonne (1780) and De la Rochette (1782–1832).⁴² De la Rochette's eclectic map of the south-western part of the colony was more detailed than Lacaille's map⁴³. However, he repeated the inaccuracies from St. Helena Bay to Saldanha Bay, but did not repeat the Hanglip error.

37 Carte de l'Isle de France levée géométriquement par Mr. l'abbé de la Caille, available at <http://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bt-v1b7759720x>

38 Glass, see note 6, p. 114 and Stewart, see note 3, pp. 31–32

39 Stewart, see note 3.

40 See note 20: De Bry (#205), Seller (#219), Valentijn (#214).

41 General chart of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, in John Barrow, *Travels into the Interior of Southern Africa...* (London: Cadell and Davies, 1801), vol. 2.

42 Stewart, see note 3.

43 Roger Stewart. 'De la Rochette's map of the Cape of Good Hope.' *IMCoS Journal* 2013, 132, pp. 22–27.

VOC mapping



Fig. 9. anonymous cartographer corrected Lacaille's map of the Cape of Good Hope coastline and added some place names, but the Saldanha error persists. Lacaille's original coastline is clearly discernible. (NL-HaNA 4.TOPO.15.9, with permission of the National Archives of the Netherlands)



Fig. 10. Frederici's 1788 correction of the Saldanha Bay error, here re-drawn ca 1803 (cropped from NL-HaNA 4.JSF.25). (With permission of the National Archives of The Netherlands)

The VOC authorities at the Cape started rigorously surveying the region a century after the Dutch settlement was established in 1652, but the maps were kept secret.⁴⁴ Lacaille's geodetic survey and his small map certainly did influence VOC cartographers and also cartographers in Europe.

In 1782, an anonymous VOC cartographer drew a map with Lacaille's geodetic triangles that was 'verder geformeert uijt diverse beschrijvingen' (amended according to diverse descriptions) (fig. 9).⁴⁵

Lacaille's coastline was amended in the north-west and south-east and his original coastline is also drawn as if it were a visible watermark. However, Saldanha Bay was still too far south and too long; this persistent error seems to confirm our suggestion that at least part of Lacaille's coastal outline emanated from the VOC.

In 1788 Johann Frederici, an employee of the VOC, corrected the Saldanha error when he conducted a survey from False Bay to the southern shore of St. Helena Bay.⁴⁶ About twenty years later, Frederici's large map was redesigned according to Lacaille's Cape graticule and redrawn by Josephus Jones, a local artist, under the direction of Louis Michel Thibault, then chief surveyor at the Cape (fig. 10).⁴⁷

44 Elri Liebenberg. 'Unveiling the Geography of the Cape of Good Hope: Selected VOC Maps of the Interior of South Africa.' in History of Cartography (Berlin: Springer-Verlag, 2012).

45 Kaart der Situatie van het zuyder deel van Africa, omtrent de Caap de Goede Hoop. Volgens gedaane afmeetingen van De la Caille en verder geformeert uijt diverse beschrijvingen van dien uijthoek van dat Werelddeel voornt. In Jos Gommen and Rob van Diessen, eds., Comprehensive Atlas of the Dutch United East India Company. Volume VII: East Asia, Burma to Japan & Supplement (Amsterdam: Asia Maior, 2010), p.388. The map is 4.TOPO.15.9 at the Dutch National Archives and may be viewed at: <https://goo.gl/dy9IbP>.

46 Frederici, Lieutenant Johann Christiaan in S2A3 Biographical Database of Southern African Science, available at https://www.s2a3.org.za/bio/Biograph_final.php?serial=988.

47 Brommer, Grote Atlas van de Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie (see note 35), pp.204 – 207. The redrawn map is 'Generale

Sea charts ⁴⁸

There is a somewhat unexpected perspective on Lacaille's 'Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance.' I recently argued that this small map was the model for the sea chart published on a date between 1755 and 1767: 'Plan du Cap de Bonne Espérance et de ses environs.' This first state of the sea chart retained Lacaille's coastline errors. Nevertheless, the chart was a major advance on earlier printed sea charts of the Cape of Good Hope. The first state was the model for William Herbert's 'A chart of the Cape of Good Hope and parts adjacent taken geometrically in the year 1752'. Herbert's chart was published between 1776 and 1780 in six editions of his *New Directory for the East Indies* – the chart is now scarce, probably because it was popular and used at sea.

The 'Plan du Cap de Bonne Espérance et de ses environs' has been attributed to Jean-Baptiste Après de Mannevillette, who published the second state in 1775 in his *Neptune Oriental*. In this state Mannevillette corrected the Hanglip error, but not the Saldanha Bay error; nor was it corrected in the third and fourth states published in 1781 and 1812 respectively, in a supplement to *Neptune Oriental*.

Concluding Summary

Lacaille's printed 'Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance et de ses Environs' was modelled on a manuscript map (ca 1752) that is conserved in the South African Archives and here is reproduced in print for the first time (fig. 6). The editions and states of the printed map are summarised in Table 1.

Lacaille's 1755 'Carte du Cap de Bonne Espérance et de ses Environs', with its geodetic triangles, is small and inaccurate, but looms large in the history of cartography of southern Africa. It is a testimony of the beginning of experimental science and surveying in southern Africa, and it influenced both terrestrial maps and sea charts of the Cape of Good Hope into the nineteenth century.

Acknowledgments

The late Prof. Brian Warner, formerly Emeritus Distinguished Professor at the University of Cape Town, contributed numerous helpful suggestions for improvement of early drafts of this article and, prompted by Bea Brommer, located Lacaille's manuscript.

I thank the National Archives of South Africa and the Netherlands and the Brenthurst Library, Johannesburg for permission to publish images of their maps.,

Jan De Graeve reminded me of the map illustrated in figure 6 and Ian Glass provided his edited image of the map. Marco van Egmond, curator of maps, atlases, and printed works at the Utrecht University Library, assisted with the history of Mortier and Schreuder le jeune.



Roger Stewart
rogerstewartonline@gmail.com

plan van de Tavel-baay en van de kust tot aan de Saldanha en St. Helena baayen dressé par L. M. Thibault, inspecteur-général des batiments civils et militaires du gouvernement Battav au Cap de Bonne Espérance, levé sous le Gouvernement de mr. Van de Graaff, par Friderici, door Jones, 2e Lt. dessinateur attaché à l'état Major.' [1802-1806] (40 × 123 cm). This map is 4.JSF.25 at the Dutch National Archives. While the survey was conducted in 1788 by Frederici, the Generale Plan was only drawn between 1803 and 1806, while the Cape of Good Hope was under Batavian rule.

48 Roger Stewart, 'Untangling the authors of the four states of 'Plan du Cap de Bonne Espérance'', *Maps in History* 78 (January 2024), pp. 20-27.



Argentario ceramic wall maps



A narrow street in Italy. Vespas parked here and there. A wall over two metres high. A porch and a narrow entrance that opens onto a large courtyard, like a school courtyard. And then, surprise, ceramic tiles decorating two long walls.

Then, as you approach, another surprise: the ceramics depict old maps. Not two or three, but forty-four maps. From an extract of the *Tabula Peutingeriana* to the *Carta Topografica del Circondario di Orbetello* from 1851 (anonymous), via a map of Pierre Le Poivre (1546–1626) entitled *Designo del Paes de Porte Hercule y Orbetello* that depicts very well the geography of the '**Argentario**' region in 1606.

Because, yes, we are near Porto Ercole and Orbetello; to be precise, in **Porto Santo Stefano**. The village is a small port located on the 'Argentario promontory' on the Tuscan coast. This promontory is an ancient island that, over the centuries, has been linked to the mainland by two sandbars; a geographical and geological curiosity in itself.

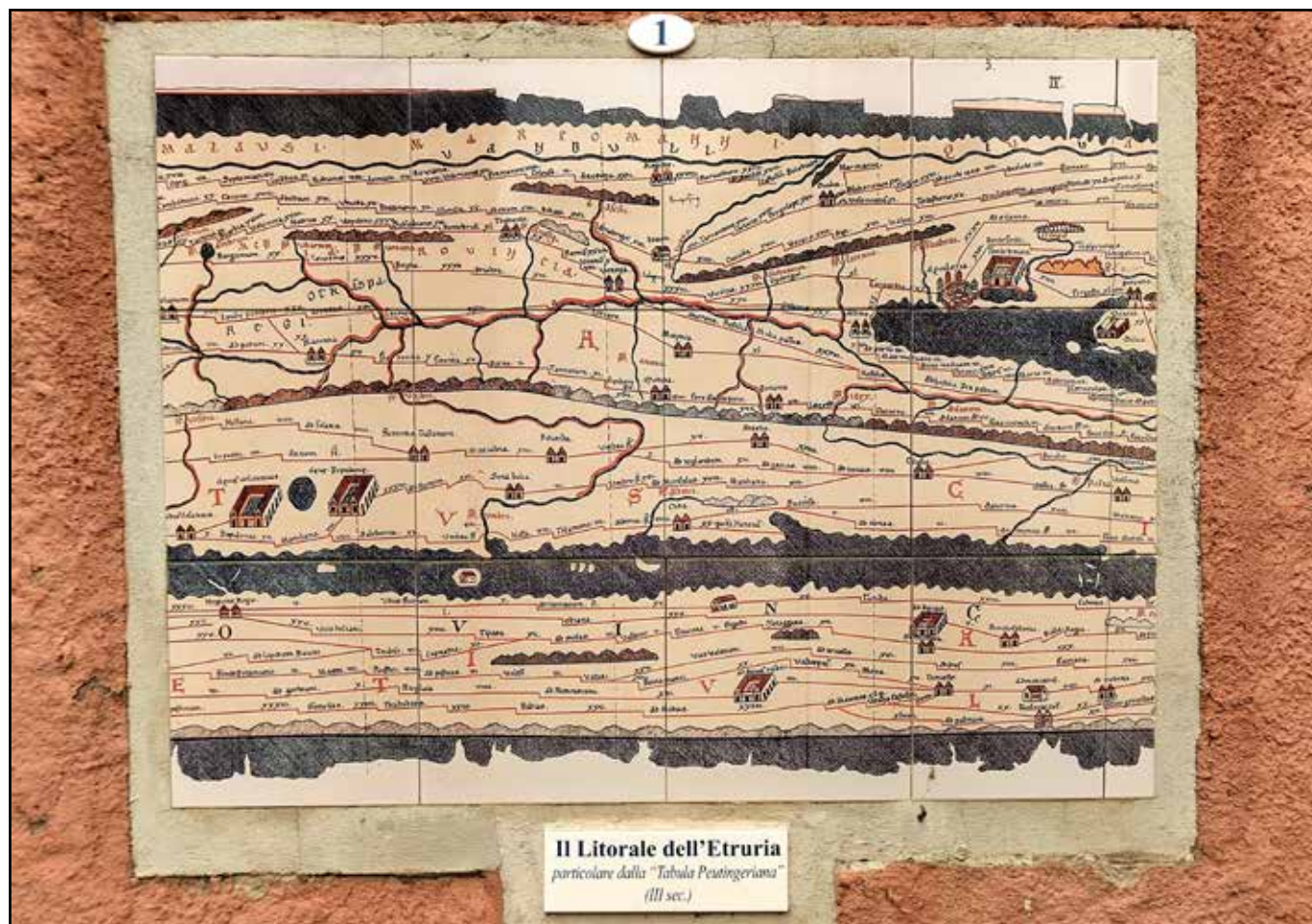
The site is home to the 'Centro Studi Don Pietro Fanciulli', a cultural association supported by the town¹

In 2016, it took the initiative of setting up a permanent exhibition entitled 'Cartografia storica delle Costa d'Argentario'.

The range of maps on display focuses on the Bassa Maremma. This is a region that, facing the sea, extends into both Tuscany and Lazio. It shares its history with Spain. The area's history has justified the production of a large number of maps. The maps reproduced here come from various libraries and archives: Naples, Florence, Rome, Siena, Madrid, Paris, Prague, Malta, Monaco, etc. Documents from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries are particularly well represented. Ignazio Fabroni has signed seven of them, which are not strictly speaking maps but views. They relate to the Spanish presence in the region.

The ceramics were made by Ceramica digitale, a brand of Marinacci snc in Deruta, a town famous the world over for its traditional production of artistic majolica. It was the brainchild of Stefano Marinacci, an artist specialising in digital art and new media, and son of Giuliano Marinacci, a potter with over sixty years' experience. Their digital art studio specialises in the production of photoceramics and decals (transfers) in small and medium-sized runs. The creative process is done by hand and is of the highest quality, thanks to the synergy between modern computer technology and the age-old skills of the craftsman. The company is going strong.

¹ Centro Studi Don Pietro Fanciulli, Via Scarabelli 16, Porto Santo Stefano.
Email info@centrostudidonpietrofanciulli.it.
Web <https://www.facebook.com/Centro-Studi-Don-Pietro-Fanciulli-121643894950936/>. Opening hours: Martedì dalle ore 10:00 alle 12:00, Venerdì dalle ore 16:30 alle 18:30. <https://www.openstreetmap.org/?mlat=42.4347&mlon=11.1213#map=11/42.4347/11.1213>



The maps are reproduced at scales greater than 1:1 on sets of 12 to 30 squares. So they're particularly easy to read!

The site is part of the collection of wall maps of Italy ².

The exhibition has also been published in a small book entitled *Cartografia storica della Costa d'Argentario - Guida alla mostra realizzata su piastrelle di ceramica* ³. It includes an introduction, background information, a history of the region, technical details on the production of ceramics, detailed identification of each of the forty-four maps and a bibliography of over fifty references.

² The 'Galleria delle carte geografiche' in the Vatican, the 'Sala delle carte geografiche' in the Palazzo Farnese in Caprarola (which several members of our circle visited on 6 and 7 May 2016), the 'Sala delle Carte Geografiche e Mappe celesti' in the Palazzo Aeronautica in Rome, the contemporary maps added during the Fascist regime to the outside wall of the Basilica di Massenzio in Rome, the 'Sala delle carte geografiche' in the Palazzo Vecchio in Florence, the 'Sala dello Scudo' in the Palazzo Ducale in Venice, the former Palazzo GIL (Gioventù Italiana del Littorio) in Forlì and the 'Cartoteca storica delle Marche' in Serra San Quirico.

³ *Cartografia storica della Costa d'Argentario - Guida alla mostra realizzata su piastrelle di ceramica*, Centro Studi Don Pietro Fanciulli, Effigi ed. Arcidosso. 2017. ISBN 978-8864337760. EUR 12.00.

The **ceramic production process** is very simple.

After the image to be reproduced has been entered into the computer, it is optimised with the help of suitable software to be printed on slightly spongy cardboard, using coloured inks that are resistant to high temperatures. After this first operation, a lacquer is sprayed onto the print, which turns into a thin film, at which point the decal is ready to be used. The surface to be decorated, previously enamelled and fired, is taken and the print obtained on 'carto-decalcomania' is immersed in a basin of water. The spongy cardboard, used in the first stage of moulding, absorbs the water and the colours of the print detach from it but remain 'stuck' to the thin film, which in turn detaches and transforms into a positive photographic film that is applied without too much difficulty to the ceramic object to be classically decorated. The work must first dry thoroughly before being heated in a ceramic kiln at a temperature of 860°C. After firing, the result is a classic decorated, shiny and durable ceramic.



Pierre Parmentier
pierreparmentier@gmail.com



ICHC2024, the 30th International Conference on the History of Cartography, was held in Lyon, France, from 1 to 5 July 2024. The Welcome Ceremony took place in the prestigious amphitheatre of the Université Lumière Lyon 2 (Fig.1). It was opened by Wouter Bracke, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Imago Mundi CIO, and President of our Circle. Tributes were then paid to various personalities from the world of the history of cartography, mainly Tony Campbell, former head of the Imago Mundi society, and Catherine Delano-Smith, former editor of the Imago Mundi journal.

The daily sessions took place in the auditoriums of the Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3. The Closing Ceremony was at the Musée des Confluences.

There were around 200 attendees. Two thirds of them stayed for the whole week, which Wouter Bracke celebrated because at an ICHC 'what goes on between talks is as important as the presentations themselves'. Wouter was also glad to see many young scholars, and for that he thanked the ISHMap society.

The Brussels Map Circle was particularly well represented, with nearly twenty members attending. Seven of them gave papers.

Organisation and programme

The programme was dense, varied and related to all parts of the world, in keeping with the title of the conference 'Confluences. Interdisciplinarity and New Challenges in the History of Cartography'. We were treated to almost 120 papers, 15 posters and a workshop session. Choices had to be made; apart from the plenary sessions, the speakers were simultaneously spread over two rooms.

All participants received a hardcopy detailed programme including a summary of each presentation and a brief biography of the speakers.

On Wednesday, the Lyon Map Fair was held in a number of rooms above the auditoriums. This was an opportunity for the Brussels Map Circle to make its presence felt, alongside dealers from various countries.



Fig. 1. Opening session at the Université Lumière Lyon 2 amphitheatre.

Caroline De Candt and Alex Smit manned the Circle stand (see Caroline's report on page 41).

At the same time as the conference, there were five exhibitions open to the public at

- the Archives municipales de Lyon,
- the Archives du département du Rhône et de la métropole de Lyon,
- the Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon (Part-Dieu site),
- the Bibliothèque de la Manufacture de l'Université Jean Moulin, and
- the Bibliothèque Diderot in Lyon (ENS de Lyon).

The themes and details of these events are given on our website. A report of the exhibition at the Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon can be found below, pages 38-40.

It is noteworthy that the conference did not take place in a closed environment. On the contrary the venues of the talks and the exhibitions were all in an urban environment. Rows of children could be heard passing under the auditorium windows, as could the lorries collecting the rubbish. Lunch was taken in the CROUS restaurant, amongst the students. To get to the exhibitions, the groups took public transport. We appreciated this immersion into the everyday life of Lyon.

It is not easy to summarise all of the conference's contributions. First, because there were so many and they covered a wide range of fields. Second, because it was physically impossible for any individual to attend all of them, due to mutually exclusive parallel sessions. We will nevertheless attempt to give our readers a flavour of what was presented. For that, we have made a subjective selection of several themes that numerous separate talks touched on. We also highlight a few other talks that particularly impressed us, with all our apologies to the numerous excellent papers we have omitted. Finally, we give some personal general comments.

Themes

Theme 1: Digital

There were a particularly large number of presentations on digital approaches, some of them leading to impressive results. Techniques are evolving, based on the digitisation of old documents and the vectorisation of graphic elements. Tools for text recognition, geolocation, data extraction and semantic segmentation are opening up new prospects for researchers, such as comparison with gazeteers, geocoding of historical data, reconstitution of old topographies and the analysis of discrepancies between old and current routes.

Béatrice Valenti showed us how to take cartometry to the next level in her study of Western maps of Jerusalem. Rather than relying on well-known MapAnalyst software, she has coded her own tool on Python from scratch in order to have full control of the calculations and automatic map comparisons.

A French team has reconstructed the Paris coordinate reference system of Edme Verniquet (1727–1804) using its manuscript trigonometric calculations, which have thankfully been preserved. They have found that, even with low-quality instruments, precision below one toise was achieved.

Rémi Petipierre presented techniques applied to scans of old maps, particularly cadastral plans. Image fragmentation offers the possibility of displaying and quantifying fragments by hue, texture, line width, feature orientation, morphology and topology. The result is a semantic segmentation that opens up new possibilities for reading documents.

Solenn Tual is extracting information from the Napoleonic cadaster of France and feeding it into a 'knowledge graph database'. This rich and flexible way of organising data will shed light on dates of construction of buildings, assessing land use evolution, performing micro-economic studies, and so on. Imagination is the only limit. Or rather, imagination and several practical data cleaning issues such as resolving abbreviations and deciding what 'idem' refers to.

Yet another French team is extracting all toponyms from Diderot's *Encyclopédie* and linking them to Wikidata. The project is less straightforward than it sounds because toponyms appear in many different types of entries and there is a lot of noise to handle. Data cleaning is, again, key to success.

Theme 2: Colonialism

Two composite atlases from the late 17th century were the subject of Emily Mann's talk.

One is considered "*the first atlas of English Empire*". The other, French, has been called "*a monument to Louis XIV's empire*".

However, despite illusions of grandeur, Emily showed that imperial precarity surfaces, as for instance local Spanish resistance is mentioned in Jamaica. Her next step is to integrate other contemporary perspectives into her study, in particular Dutch and Spanish maps.

Two U.S. researchers, Casey Price and Nathan Braccio, revealed how indigenous North American people's maps and spatial knowledge hide beneath apparently 'English' maps from the 17th and 18th centuries.

This may significantly expand the corpus of what is considered Amerindian cartography.

Liam Benson showed the results of a toponymic study of early maps of Australia. He confirmed that the Dutch VOC (United East India Company) had a deliberate policy, when taking possession of new lands, of naming them after place names in the Netherlands. Famous mapmaker Joan Blaeu's toponyms were thus a claim to imperium. However, they fell quickly out of use.

On a related topic, Margriet Hoogvliet and Anouk de Vries gave a vibrant talk on the need to decolonise maps from the Dutch 'Golden Age'. They illustrated how Dutch maps perpetuated colonial myths. For example, the land was depicted as unproductive and not owned by anyone until Europeans arrived; and indigenous people were drawn as uncivilised, lazy and/or violent to justify their being enslaved or 'guided' by Christian Europeans. While Joan Blaeu loudly denounced the colonial violence perpetrated by the Portuguese and Spanish, he silenced Dutch atrocities. For instance, the VOC exterminated almost the entire population of Banda Island, but Blaeu's



Fig. 2. Margriet Hoogvliet and Anouk de Vries's slide that denounces the genocide perpetrated by the VOC in Banda.

Atlas Maior merely states that “The Dutch obtained the island of Banda” (Fig.2). Given that, the speakers argued, the downplaying of responsibility and guilt has survived to this day in the Netherlands, they are preparing recommendations for Dutch museums on how to provide adequate context in map captions. However, several attendees voiced uneasiness with the speaker's approach. A lively debate seems to lie ahead.

Moving to a more recent colonialist enterprise, Colin Dupont described how the Congo River was mapped by the Belgian private company called Institut National de Géographie in the 1880s (Fig.3). The talk clearly triggered the interest of the audience, as many questions were asked.

Theme 3: Twentieth-century conflicts

Imre Demhardt reconstructed how the Germans produced military maps of Mesopotamia to help their Ottoman allies in a less known theatre of World War I. He issued a call for collectors to notify him of maps of that area and period.

Jack Kello explained why the mapping of religions in post-Ottoman Levant is very complex. The Ottoman Empire's millet legal system defined religious communities without linking them to a territory. Families of different religions coexisted within the same town, within the same building block. After 1918, occupying powers France and Britain kept the millet system in place. The speaker thus warned against modern maps, such as one issued by geostrategy consultant Stratfor in 2014 that is ‘full of mistakes’ and based on obsolete data.

The very first atlas in the Hebrew language was presented by Zef Segal. Co-authored in 1924 by Vladimir Jabotinsky, the founder of right-wing Zionism, it promoted his nationalistic view of Judaism. The atlas probably had a massive political impact because it was used in all Hebrew schools for decades, but very few scholars have written about it and then only about the couple of maps of Palestine it contains.

World War II was evoked by Philippe Frei, who presented German military maps of Switzerland from that period. He concluded that these “maps were kept up to date, even long before a possible attack”. Several attendees commented that the Germans did this for other countries too, such as Spain in 1940 and Denmark in 1916, and that in fact mapping in advance is the logical thing to do for any military.

Petra Svatek, on her side, showed two maps made by Simon Wiesenthal in 1948 to document the Nazi genocide of Jews in Austria. They are based on primary research only, mainly interviews with survivors, without access to official archives. Wiesenthal used them to educate the media and politicians, and to help keep the memory of Holocaust alive.



Fig. 3. Colin Dupont - member and webmaster of our Map Circle - giving his talk

Theme 4: East Asia

A dozen talks addressed ancient maps made in East Asia (China, Japan) or using knowledge from that region. Among them, Vera Doroteva-Lichtmann discussed a printed atlas of China, from around the 12th century, that intriguingly shows China as an archipelago (like Japan). Linda Rui Feng traced the representation of the Yellow River headwater across several cartographic works, in particular a recently restored map of the Yellow River made in Japan in 1681.

A particularly rich field is the study of culturally hybrid East Asian-European maps, for their potential to illuminate the history of both cultural spaces. Angelo Cattaneo presented a Japanese map of the Pacific Ocean that was a “cultural and epistemic translation” of a Spanish map (Fig.4).

That source map was carried aboard a galleon that connected the Philippines with Mexico and which got wrecked off Japan in 1596. The Japanese moved the map's centre to Japan while preserving information about distances and Spanish maritime routes.

Emma Zheng explained how Chinese scholar Zhang Hunang went on to incorporate Western geographical knowledge into his Compendium in the early 17th century.

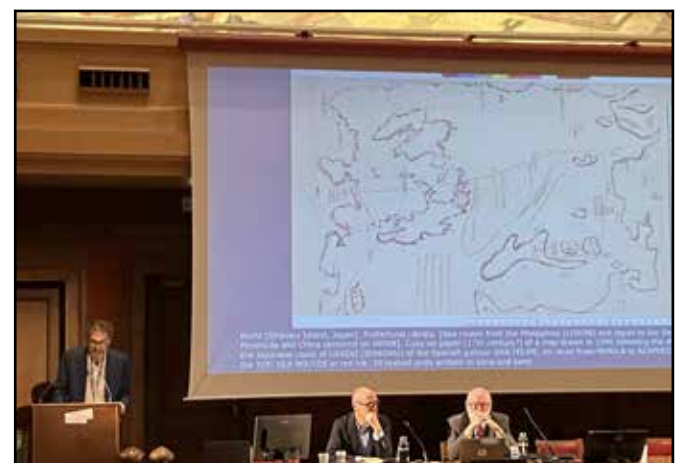


Fig. 4. Angelo Cattaneo presents a recently discovered hybrid Japanese-Spanish map.

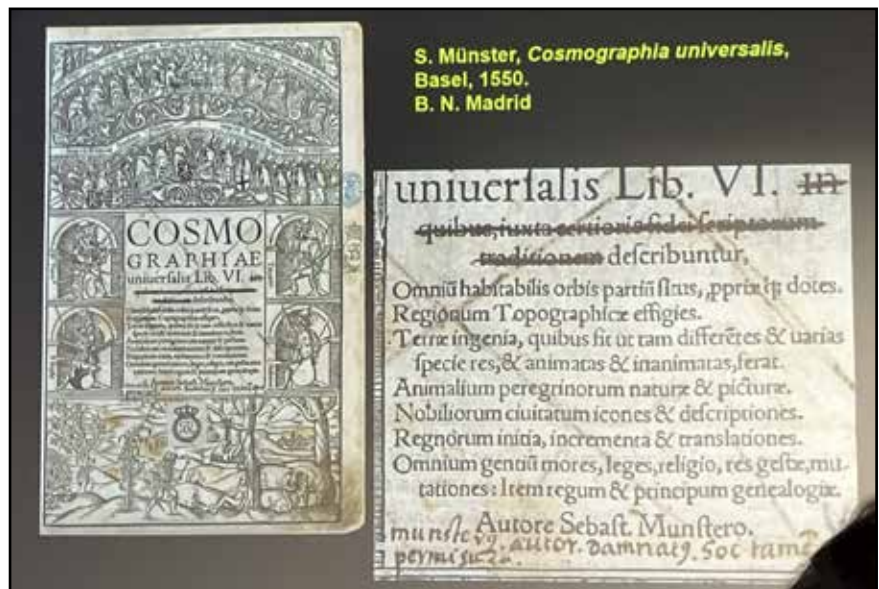


Fig. 5. Sections of a treatise by Sebastian Munster partially defaced by the Spanish Inquisition.

This was “not a passive encounter with Western maps”, but an active reinterpretation and assimilation into established intellectual frameworks.

Mirela Altic described the first Western stand-alone map of Vietnam, by Alexandre de Rhodes (1650), which was very Vietnamese in its design choices and political messages. On the other hand, a second and more influential version of the map issued in 1653 was much more westernised.

Theme 5: Map use

While most papers focused on the content of maps or on how maps were produced, a handful dared to tackle the difficult question of how maps were actually used in the past.

Bram Vanniewenhuyze and his PhD student Marina Griffioen gave two talks on ‘encounters with maps’ by people who travelled around the Netherlands in the 18th and 19th centuries. They concluded that maps were effectively displayed at the time, and travellers described them, but doubts remain about how widespread their use really was, especially by working class people.

Martijn Storms showed us how he is shedding new light on past use of maps by studying their manuscript annotations. He thus manages to insert each map in a historical event, which may be e.g. a construction project, a battle or an epidemic. Martijn also provided a systematic list of use traces, both textual (such as ownership marks and dates) and cartographic (routes on sea, routes on land, amendments, added information and so on).

Other highlights

Several papers do not fit into any of the identified themes but nevertheless deserve mention.

Jean-Marc Besse explained how the Catholic Inquisition applied censorship to geographical works in the 16th century. Texts authored by Protestant geographers such as Sebastian Münster were expunged of anti-Catholic

paragraphs and the authors’ portraits were sometimes defaced (Fig.5). Metaphysical speculations were removed too, for example the *Meditatio* in Mercator’s atlas. However, maps were never banned or censored, as there was no perception of a ‘Protestant geography’ or ‘Protestant place names’ to combat.

Joaquim Gaspar shared a cartometric study of 70 nautical-style charts of Africa focused on the effect of magnetic declination. He has found that, after 1620, chart errors are consistent with the use of astronomically determined latitudes and longitudes. So, the plate carrée projection was indeed used by nautical chartmakers at least in the 17th century, Joaquim acknowledged, ‘after having published seven articles refuting it!’

Carolina Martínez presented five seventeenth-century rutters of the Pacific coast of Spanish America with around 150 maps each. She highlighted the surprising systematic inclusion of a map of the distant Vanuatu archipelago in each rutter and advanced several hypotheses for it, from geographical logic to commercial interests to Biblical mythology. This is a testimony to the diversity of knowledge that has to be brought to bear when studying old maps.

Matthew Edney and Peter Hellström both talked about J. B. d’Anville’s ‘unmapping’ of Africa i.e. his suppression of previously mapped geographical features, allegedly in the name of accuracy and rationalism. While Matthew criticised past historians’ views of D’Anville’s maps as a ‘triumph of science’, Peter observed that D’Anville was not so innovative after all: earlier mapmakers had removed dubious geographical features too. Neither were D’Anville’s maps as accurate as his marketing and his eulogists would have it. What was truly unprecedented in his maps of Africa was their overwhelming emptiness.

We also liked the refreshing way in which Leif Isaksen gave his talk. Not only did he speak in a very lively manner but he also threw inflatable globes to the audience that made it easier to grasp the ancient cosmographical concepts he described.



Fig. 6. Imre Dermhardt and Francis Herbert enjoying dinner.

On a more personal level...

We were glad to leave behind the hybrid online format, with remote presentations, that had to be used in the previous ICHC because of COVID-19 restrictions.

Many different regions of the world were mentioned, taking the audience to places such as the Maranhão region, the Solomon Islands, Valachia, Shikoku Island and the Purús River, among many others. Speakers were not necessarily from those regions, though; Western Europe and the US were, as usual, well represented. Fortunately, there were attendees from almost every continent. This is valuable because, as Beatriz Bueno put it in her talk, ICHC enables us 'to broaden the debate in terms of Global History and to mitigate historiographical regionalisms'.

Several of the presentations dealt not with maps or cartography, but with peripheral subjects rather removed from the history of cartography. We also detected a tendency to make statistics of improbable value, such as the colours of the covers of folded road maps. With the exception of a few talented speakers, most papers were just read aloud. We find that this detracts from the presentation, but we also understand that reading is the safest way for speakers to respect the

tight 15 or 20 minutes' time slot allocated to their talks. Overall, this ICHC was an opportunity to meet some of the key figures in the history of cartography – people whose books and articles we had read or seen cited in bibliographical references – as well as new entrants in the field who bring fresh perspectives and methods. The atmosphere was particularly relaxed, with plenty of breaks to greet old friends and meet new ones. A special final word for Enali De Biaggi, one of the driving forces behind the event and attentive to everything and everyone, who ensured that the week was a pleasant one for all participants.

See you again in 2026 at the 31st ICHC in Prague!



Pierre Parmentier
pierreparmentier@gmail.com



Luis A. Robles Macías
luis.a.robles.macias@gmail.com

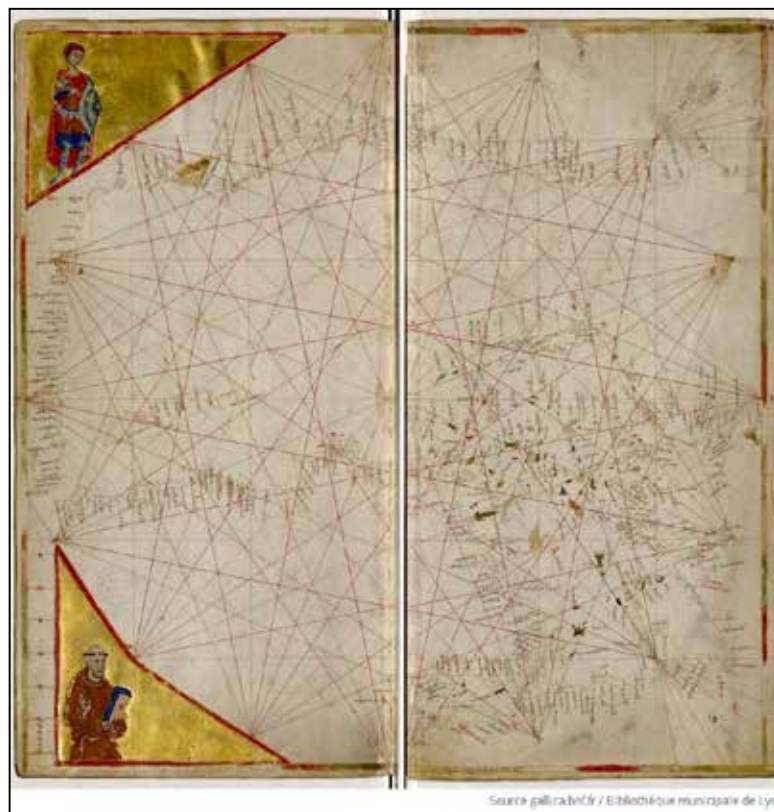


Fig. 2.a. The Eastern part of the Mediterranean in Petrus Vesconte's atlas (BmL, ms 175).



Fig. 2.b. Vesconte's atlas comprises ten parchment sheets fixed to wooden boards.

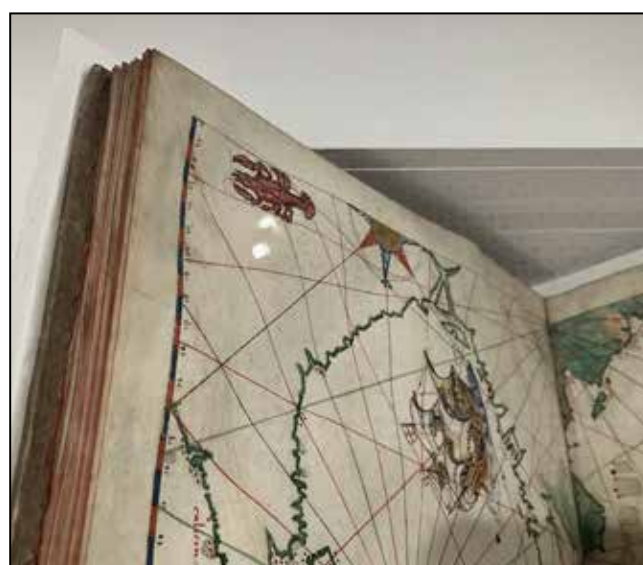


Fig. 3. Detail of the unsigned atlas BmL, ms 176.

Représenter le lointain, un regard européen (1450-1950)

[Picturing the Far Away, a European Vision (1450-1950)]

In the framework of ICHC 2024, we had the opportunity to visit a map-rich exhibition organised by the Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon (BmL) entitled *Représenter le lointain, un regard européen [Picturing the Far Away, a European Vision] (1450-1950)*.

It was only one of several optional evening activities proposed by the conference but for me, with all due respect to the other options, it was one of the highlights of the week, so I am sorry for the attendees who missed it. Its content was remarkable and our guide, in the French-speaking group, was exceptionally good.

The exhibition lasted from 2 April to 13 July 2024, but fortunately its dedicated website (in French only) remains available online¹.

The first showcase greeted visitors with nothing less than one of the oldest extant portolan charts: the *Avignon Chart* that Jacques Mille first described in detail in these pages seven years ago². Even though I was quite familiar with this chart, thanks to Jacques's book and follow-up publications, I felt the emotion of at last meeting it 'in person' and was able to grasp its materiality – its size, its texture – in a manner that digital images are not yet able to convey.

Beside the *Avignon Chart* there lay another chart fragment found not long ago in similar circumstances, in the binding of a notary register in a French local archive. An illuminated portolan-style atlas by Pietro Vesconte from around 1320 completed this spectacular showcase (Fig.2). And, in case our thirst for portolan charts had not yet been quenched, the exhibition in addition offered a close look at a French sixteenth-century atlas, curious for its use of a ten-legged lobster to identify the Tropic of Cancer (Fig.3).

An unusual object on display was a rosary from the Spanish Golden Age that includes a terrestrial globe. The exhibition's notice drew attention to the inscription 'Anno 1570 Hispania Maio' in North America and stated that this object 'brings together the Catholic creed and the display of ambitions for global domination which form the ideology of conquest'.

However, I failed to see messages of global domination in this globe ('Hispania Maio' just sounds like a mistranslation of the toponym New Spain). The presence of a celestial globe in the rosary, larger than the terrestrial one and placed before it, and the engraving on the other spheres of natural landscapes, animals and people suggests to me that the author perhaps rather intended this rosary to be a synthesis of the cosmos or a graphical story of the Creation of the Universe. Whatever the case, I noted the presence on the South America globe of the toponym 'AMERICA', which is infrequent in Spanish works of the time.



Fig. 1. Your author enjoying old chart fragments.



Fig. 4. Detail of a rosary by Antonio Spano, made between 1570 and 1613. Musée des beaux-arts de Dijon, inv. CA T 356.

¹ <https://www.bm-lyon.fr/expositions-en-ligne/representer-le-lointain-un-regard-europeen-1450-1950/>

² Maps in History 79 (September 2017); available digitally in French at <https://www.bimcc.org/history-of-cartography/avignon-chart>

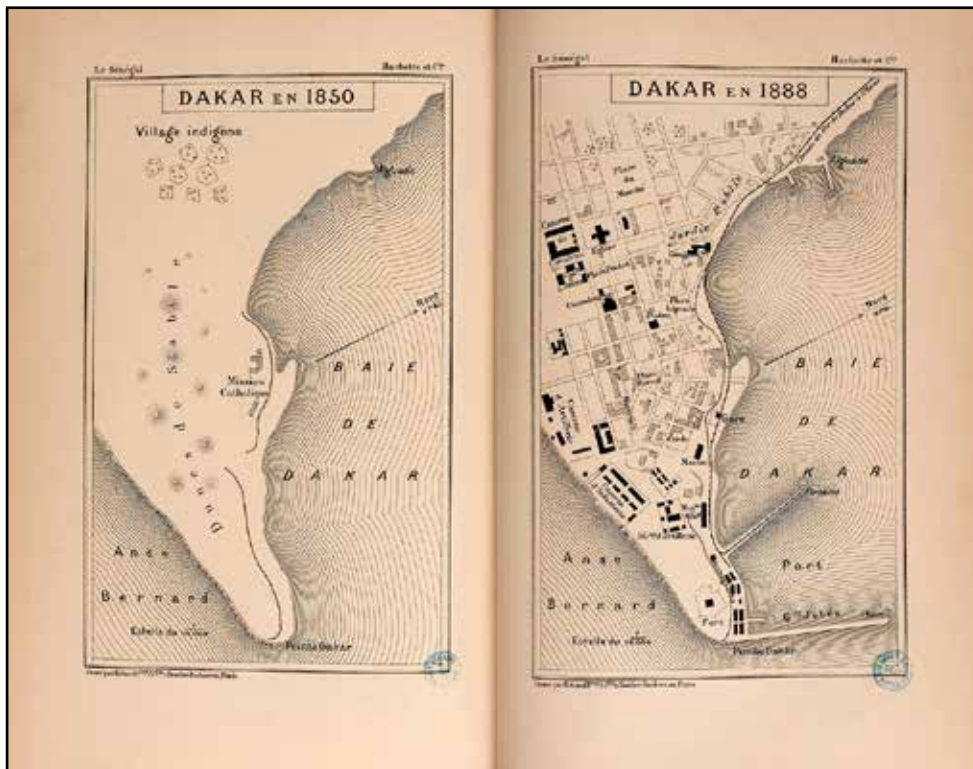


Fig. 5. 'Dakar en 1850' and 'Dakar en 1888' in Louis Faidherbe, *Le Sénégal. La France dans l'Afrique occidentale* (Paris : Hachette, 1889), 482-483.

The painful history of European colonialism and imperialism was more clearly reflected in later works also on display, for example a 1731 engraving of French, Portuguese, English and Dutch slave trading at an African town; a German racial map of 1852, and the plans of the Cap-Vert peninsula titled 'Dakar in 1850' and 'Dakar in 1888' (Fig. 5). The latter intend to support the dubious claim that French colonists had turned a practically desert plateau into a lively Western city almost by themselves. For that, the 1850 plan silences indigenous presence, which is limited to an imprecise 'village indigène' when in fact four distinct indigenous villages existed, including a large one on the plateau that is entirely omitted in the map.

The exploration of other frontiers was covered in the following rooms. The seabed was represented by the first map of the bottom of the English Channel (La Manche). Mountains from the Alps to the Andes were drawn in a diversity of styles. Early maps of the Moon were on display as well as speculative diagrams of the Earth's subsurface, which contrasted with the precise subterranean map of one of the Schemnitz mines, in today's Slovakia. The broad diversity of cases in which the Far Away was pictured definitely helped render this exhibition greater than the sum of its parts.

The last item of the visit was also the largest: the terrestrial globe made in 1701 by Henri Marchand and Bonaventure de Lyon for their convent at La Guillotière (Fig. 6). This impressive work of geography, 170 cm in diameter, has been lucky to survive through wars, revolutions and neglect, unlike its twin celestial globe, which was destroyed in 1918 due to its poor state. Marchand's globe is kept at the BmL but normally not displayed. Indeed, until this exhibition, no visitor had been able to admire it for over a decade. Detailed pictures and the transcriptions of the cartouches are available at the exhibition website.



Fig. 6: Our guide telling us the story of the Marchand globe at the BmL.

Luis A. Robles Macías
luis.a.robles.macias@gmail.com

The Map Fair at the ICHC Lyon 2024

On Wednesday 3 July the organisers had planned a Map Fair as part of the conference.

I was told nothing of the kind had ever been held in Lyon, so our Circle was very pleased to obtain a stand, where 'our banner once again floated proudly'. Pierre Joppen (and family!) kindly allotted us a place in one of the four rooms in the university buildings where Librairie Loeb-Laroque had arranged to hold the Fair.

Besides Librairie Loeb-Laroque and Paulus Swaen Old Maps, one other sponsor of our Map Circle was present, namely Barry Lawrence Ruderman (Raremaps.com), who came in person.

It was also a pleasure to see one of our members presenting his books at his stand: Jacques Mille, who displayed both his new book on *La Provence de Cassini* and the recent edition by Conspiracy of the *Cassini map*, both reviewed in this issue, pages 9 and 13 respectively (Fig.1).

Alex Smit and your servant were happy to see many familiar faces of Circle members (some 20 out of a total of around 200 conference participants) showing up over the day to say hello and – of course! – take a look at what was on offer in the stands of the dealers.

Nevertheless, we were most pleased to talk to newcomers, for whom it sometimes was a first encounter with the Map Circle. We handed out copies of our magazine *Maps in History* and showed the monthly *WhatsMap?* on our smartphones.

We had the impression quite some interest was raised. We now hope that the Map Circle benefits by gaining some new members!



Fig. 1. Jacques Mille. presenting his recent publications at the Map Fair

Caroline De Candt
carolinedecandt@gmail.com

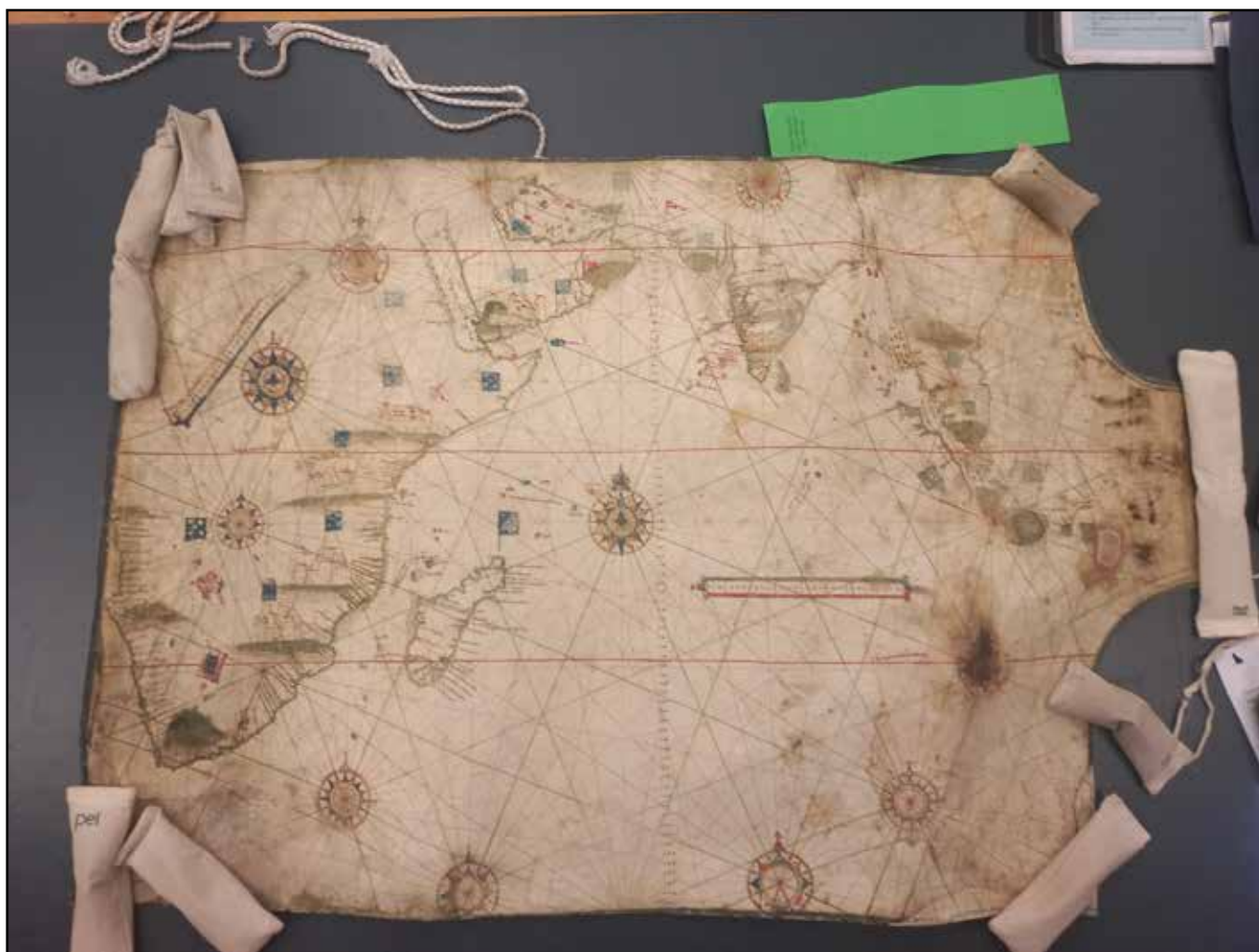


Fig. 1. Chart attributed to Pedro Reinel, ca 1522
(British Library, Additional MS. 9812) after careful, heartbreaking unrolling.



Fig. 2. Detail of a banner on a 1563 chart by Diogo Homem
(Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze, Port. N.26).
Seen with transmitted light, the coloring notes the mapmaker left
for an anonymous collaborator are revealed.
The 'o' stands for 'ouro' (gold).

How I got into cartography

An interview with Šima Krtalić



Šima Krtalić is a PhD candidate at the University of Lisbon, in Henrique Leitão's group. Last year, she was awarded the Imago Mundi Prize 2023 for her paper *Anchoring the Image of the Sea: Copying Coastlines on Manuscript Nautical Charts from the Late Middle Ages and the Early Modern Period*. I interviewed her at the University on a lovely June afternoon.

So Šima, what are you working on?

My doctoral thesis is about looking at the nautical chart not from the point of view of the transmission of geographical information, but as a strange species of visual artifact, a very particular kind of drawing. How does this drawing shape the practices of the people using them, how do their practices shape the transmission of knowledge? I take an approach from art historical studies, focusing on the methods used by artisans and situating the production of charts within a history of drawings.

This is quite groundbreaking. Can you give us more details?

Chapter 1 identifies charts as a species of drawing and gives them a definition based on formal properties. I make the case of what kind of drawing this is, its particularities, the demands being made of it, how it's being copied and, if there is any aesthetic vision being expressed in this drawing prior to the addition of decoration. Then I talk about the stylisation of coasts and about the rhumb line network and its evolution for reasons unrelated to any pragmatic purpose.

In chapter 2 I focus on how charts were copied. [This is the topic of the paper she gave at the ICHC conference in Bucharest that won her the Imago Mundi Prize]

The following chapter deals with how models were used in different periods, starting with how atlases were constructed up to around 1450; and then how later Italian cartographers worked with models borrowed from another culture.

Finally, chapter 4 focuses on models when they become something that is legislated by hydrographic institutes; how this change affects how cartographers engage with these models.

Overall, I am making my dissertation into the kind of narrative you could encounter in Art History. Because this kind of study is certainly very common when you look at the transmission of patterns in the fine arts, looking at buying and selling cartoons, using model books, and so on. In a lot of map history literature there are only glimpses of this, so I wanted to focus on this point.

What has been the hardest part of your research?

When I was studying maps in situ in archives, the hardest part was listening to the sound of the parchment crying when you unroll it after several centuries. The most heart-breaking was a Reinel chart at the British Library that was huge and did not want to be unrolled. I kept muttering 'I'm so sorry, please don't break!'

Excellent! What was your inspiration to launch yourself into this?

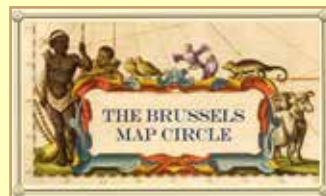
This is a natural continuation of the research directions I had pursued earlier. As an undergrad, among other things, I was a Painting major with a lot of hands-on experience with drawing and painting. Then when I went for my Masters I wanted it to have an art-science nexus: it was going to be either archaeological material science (applying science to art works) or scientific illustration (applying art to science).

I ended up doing the first one. When it was time to write my thesis the only painting material that my group (the Hercules Lab at University of Evora) happened to have was a fortress atlas made in Portuguese India. I had the chance to do some material analysis on that atlas, which by the way is very different from nautical charts. Furthermore, while I waited for a piece of lab equipment to arrive, I had time to study the iconography, the texts,

International Conference

7 December 2024

Royal Library of Belgium



Spanish Cartography

MAPPÆ MUNDI (VIII^e-XII^e siècle)

Catalogue codicologique

Patrick Gautier Dalché



Browse Sample
Pages Online

<https://bit.ly/MAPPAEMUNDI>

The publication describes in detail the hundreds of diagrams and more elaborate maps found in medieval (mainly Latin) manuscripts up to around 1200. Each entry is accompanied by a reproduction of the map in large format to allow for comparison and more in-depth study, making this book an indispensable resource for all related research.

2 vols, approx. 1262 p., 700 col. ills, 230 x 315 mm, 2023, HB,
ISBN 978-2-503-59724-9, € 625

Launch Price: € 495 (valid until 31/03/2024)

Scheduled for February 2024

excl. VAT & shipping costs



BREPOLS

For orders, contact: info@brepols.net – www.brepols.net

Spanish Cartography Conference Programme

9.30 Introduction

9.45 Luis Robles Macias (TotalEnergies),
Maps and globes to divide the world.
The Junta of Badajoz-Elvas of 1524

10.30 José M. García Redondo (Consejo Superior de
Investigaciones Científicas de España),
What was the first map printed in the New World?
Cosmographic debates, problems of authorship and
archive bluffs.

11.15 Break

11.45 Piet Lombaerde (Universiteit Antwerpen),
Fortifications and Cartography in the
Low Countries during the Spanish Occupation

12.30 Carme Montaner (Grup d'Estudis d'Història de la
Cartografia),
Maps of the Spanish civil war (1936-1939)

13.15 Closing remarks.

the lineages and how the image of this 'Portuguese Empire' was being transformed during the copying of the maps by different authors. This ended up being half of the thesis.

Then I came to know Henrique [Leitão] and he invited me to apply for a doctoral position at the University of Lisbon, to 'do anything on nautical charts'. At the beginning I hesitated because, for me, a lot of the historiography on nautical charts was alienating: either very technical or very detailed. But I was given a lot of latitude to see what I found interesting about the subject. Ultimately, what I found was that charts are fascinating because they are this strange 'not of this and not of that but yes of this and yes of that' Yes it's art but no it's not. It's a tool but you would never bring it on a ship... And their visual language is inscrutable. I once showed my sister a picture of a nautical chart and she found it beautiful but asked 'what are all those lines that cover the image? I can't see it because there are all these lines.' This is emblematic of what this object is.

Moreover, I found it very curious that charts almost do not exist in Art History historiography. The attraction was that I saw there were lots of questions, interesting and important things being written about charts, but a lot needed to be integrated into a broader history of images. There are a lot of people in fields other than the History of Cartography who could be quite interested in nautical charts if they knew about them or if they were presented to them in a language they understood. I want to write something for people who are not only historians of cartography but who could become interested in cartography. This is the path that brought me to it. I would have never identified as a historian of cartography and now, apparently, I am one, right?

Do you identify as something else now?

As a person who is interested in drawings that have to do with knowledge. I don't know if I would call myself an art historian, it is not necessarily my profile. I am a 'historian of very peculiar pictures, which includes charts'. For example, I am very interested in diagrams, weird pictures that seem to generate issues about categories.

What other passions do you have?

I love Russian literature; I have been reading *Dostoevsky* and all these authors since I was a teenager. To improve my Russian, I did my final year of undergrad in Moscow. I liked it so much that I stayed in Moscow for seven years, working as a teacher and translator and attending art history classes at the university.

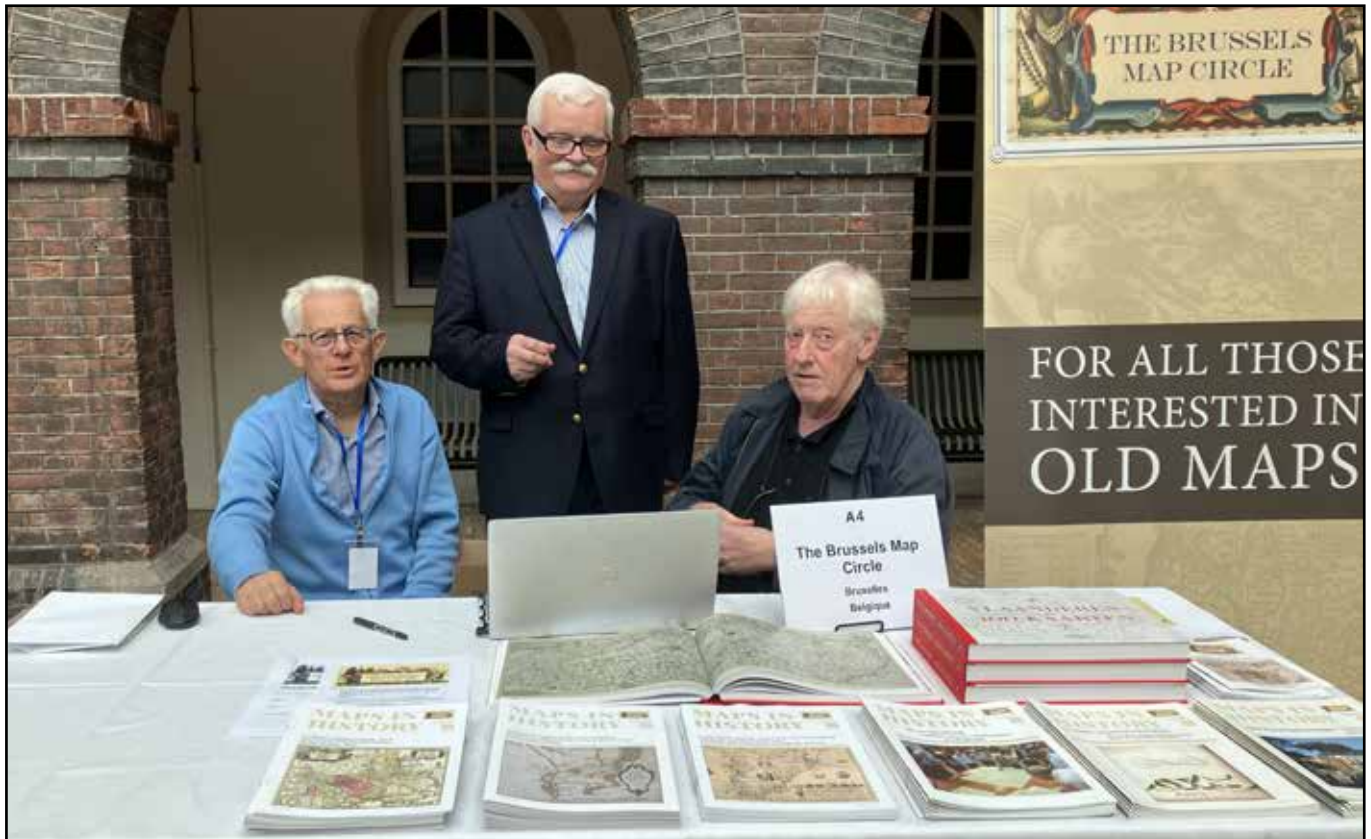
What is coming up for you?

First of all, I shall finish my dissertation. Then, look for post-docs, whether on cartography or on scientific images and diagrams more generally, and hopefully bringing nautical charts in. Charts and maps should be involved in those broader conversations. I would like to make History of Cartography something wider and to build bridges. We talk a lot about how History of Cartography is multidisciplinary, so let's do it.

So do you intend to stay in academia?

Yes. Academia is great for people like me, who want to follow their curiosity. If I manage to get a post-doc and have some freedom to work on interesting topics, I will be happy to stay in academia forever. A life of poverty and publishing speaks to me!

Luis A. Robles Macías
luis.a.robles.macias@gmail.com



Amsterdam Map Fair 2024

The Brussels Map Circle was present at the first Amsterdam Map Fair on Saturday 7 september 2024 !

Our member Pierre Dumolin (centre) was happy to show our activities and publications to visitors and Map lovers from all over the world...

New two-volume Cartobibliography of the Netherlands

First edition, only 100 copies



1096 pages, with:

- 410 historical maps of the Netherlands (1548 – 1831);
- 80 newly discovered maps;
- Featuring: 200 new states of previously described old maps;
- Including: descriptions of books and atlases with maps of the Netherlands;
- In Dutch** including: English foreword, explanatory notes and introduction.

Reserve your collectors edition at www.germania-inferior.nl

The Brussels Map Circle

AIMS AND FUNCTIONS

The Circle was created, as the Brussels International Map Collectors' Circle (BIMCC), in 1998 by Wulf Bodenstein.

Now known as the Brussels Map Circle, it is a non-profit making association under Belgian law (asbl/vzw 0464 423 627).

Its aims are to:

1. Provide an informal and convivial forum for all those with a specialist interest in maps, atlases, town views and books with maps, be they collectors, academics, antiquarians, or simply interested in the subject
2. Organise lectures on various aspects of historical cartography, on regions of cartographical interest, on documentation, paper conservation and related subjects
3. Organise visits to exhibitions, and to libraries and institutions holding important map and atlas collections.

In order to achieve these aims, the Circle organises the following annual events:

- A MAP AFTERNOON in March or April, bringing together all those interested in maps and atlases for an informal chat about an item from their collection – an ideal opportunity to get to know the Circle.
- An EXCURSION to a map collection or exhibition.
- An INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on a specific major topic in December.

The Brussels Map Circle also publishes *Maps in History* (formerly known as *BIMCC Newsletter*), three times a year and a monthly electronic news bulletin 'WhatsMap?'. It also maintains a website.

Information on events and exhibitions to be placed on the calendar of our website and announced in WhatsMap? should be sent to webmaster@bimcc.org

OFFICIAL ADDRESS

c/o Arenberg Auctions
Wolstraat 19/2 Rue aux Laines
B-1000 Brussels
www.bimcc.org
info@bimcc.org

HONORARY PRESIDENTS

Wulf Bodenstein
Avenue des Camélias 71
1150 Bruxelles
telephone: +32 (0) 2 771 23 14
e-mail: wulfbo@outlook.com

Eric Leenders
Jan Janssensstraat 2B2
2610 Antwerpen
telephone: +32(0)477 602263
e-mail: eric.leenders3@telenet.be

Caroline De Candt
Burggravenlaan 341
9000 Gent
telephone: +32(0)9 222 80 14
e-mail: carolinedecandt@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PRESIDENT

Wouter Bracke
Louis Hapstraat 210
1040 Brussel
telephone: +32(0)493864281
e-mail: wouter.bracke@kbr.be

VICE-PRESIDENT

Jean-Christophe Staelens
Herdebeekstraat 285
1701 Dilbeek
e-mail: jcs@loginfra-strategy.com

EDITOR - ÉDITEUR RESPONSABLE

Luis Robles
84 avenue Jean Mermoz
64000 Pau
France
telephone: + 33 (0)680934023
e-m: luis.a.robles.macias@gmail.com

Layout

Paul De Candt
telephone: +32(0)475899224
e-mail: pauldecandt@gmail.com

TREASURER

Marijn van Zundert
Varenlaan 7
2950 Kapellen
e-mail: bimcc@vanzundert.be

SECRETARY

Marie-Anne Dage
e-mail: marie.anne.dage@gmail.com

WEBMASTER

Colin Dupont
colin.dupont@kbr.be

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR

Wouter Bracke
wouter.bracke@kbr.be

OTHER OFFICERS

- Jan De Graeve
jan@degraeve-geo.eu
- Henri Godts
henri@arenbergauctions.com
- Jean-Louis Renteux
jl.renteux@gmail.com

BECOMING (AND STAYING) A MEMBER

Members receive three issues of our magazine 'Maps in History' per annum and have free admission to most of the Circle's events.

Non-Members pay full rates.

Annual Membership: EUR 50.00,

Students and Juniors under 25:

EUR 15.00.

To become (and stay!) a Member, please pay the Membership dues EXCLUSIVELY by bank transfer (no cheques please) to our bank account: IBAN BE52 0682 4754 2209 BIC: GKCCBEBB and notify the Membership Secretary (jcs@loginfra-strategy.com) indicating your name and address.

MAPS IN HISTORY

The Brussels Map Circle currently publishes three issues per year. It is distributed, not only to Members of the Circle, but also to key institutions (universities, libraries) and to personalities active in the field of the history of cartography, located in 16 different countries.

Please submit articles and contributions to the editor by the following deadlines:

- 15 March for the May edition.
- 15 July for the September edition.
- 15 Nov. for the January edition.

Items presented for publication are submitted to the approval of the Editorial Committee.

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



BLR

Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.

FINE & RARE ANTIQUE MAPS,
SEA CHARTS, TOWN VIEWS & ATLASES

RAREMAPS.COM

7407 La Jolla Blvd. | La Jolla, CA 92037
BLR@RareMaps.com | 858.551.8500