

THE ORIGIN OF THE CALIFORNIA MAP SOCIETY

Sometime in 1977 Diane Rose (later Diane North) was doing research on nineteenth century maps in the Bancroft Library at Berkeley. Diane, a University of California, Davis History PhD candidate, was preparing a paper on the maps of Herman Ehrenberg. During the course of one of her visits, I asked, in an off-hand way, why there was no map society in the Bay Area or indeed in California, since these organizations seemed to be springing up nearly everywhere else? Her immediate and enthusiastic response: let's start one! Over the next few months she steadfastly pursued the idea. Eventually, we picked a date, got two speakers, selected some maps for a mini-exhibit, sent out invitations, and managed to round up some donuts and coffee for our initial event.

This first organizational meeting was held on May 20, 1978 at the Bancroft Library. Some 20 people attended, including one stalwart from San Diego and another from Glendale. An additional 20 had expressed an interest in the proposed Society, but were unable to attend. The gathering included a talk by the late Robert H. Becker on Bancroft's pre-Columbian "Codex Fernandez Leal," a manuscript map/genealogical chart from southern Mexico tentatively dated from the 8th to 11th century. Diane gave an illustrated lecture on the pre-statehood maps of California.

At the business portion of the meeting, questions raised included the focus of the Society (then narrowly thought of as being either historical maps or perhaps just historical California maps). Should the membership be statewide or more localized? Did the organization need to be a formal one with the usual constitution, by-laws, officers, and dues? At the suggestion of Joe Crotts (California State University Library, Chico) an interim steering committee was appointed (Ken Stein of Berkeley, and Robert Winter of the Geography Dept., California State University, Hayward, and me). Stan Stevens (University of California, Santa Cruz) had the foresight to take notes of this meeting.

Quite a lot of work was done by volunteers after the first meeting, including drafting a set of by-laws. Their efforts resulted in a second organizational meeting, held on March 17th, 1979 at the University of San Francisco. Dr. W. Michael Mathes of the USF's History Department was its host and delivered a paper on a technique he used to microfilm maps in Spanish archives, and we

toured the Special Collections Department of the Gleason Library. A Nominating Committee, composed of Leonard A. Magazine, June Mayfield and Margaret Sowers presented a slate of nominees who were elected by acclamation, and became the Society's first officers. (I have the distinct feeling that much more occurred on this day, but that's all I can reconstruct from memory and a brief election announcement in the Western Association of Map Libraries Information Bulletin. If anyone has notes or other information about this meeting, I'm sure President Newman would welcome the same for our archives.)

The Society was really launched at its first general meeting on November 3, 1979 at California State University, Fullerton. President Norman J.W. Thrower of the Department of Geography at UCLA presided and also gave a paper. Details of this and subsequent meetings are provided in the following pages.

To look back on its accomplishments, above and beyond the friendships and pleasures it has provided, CMS has fostered an appreciation and increased our knowledge of maps. The Society has held (in addition to the two organizational ones) 36 general meetings with more than 150 papers presented by some 130 speakers, and has met in 22 locations from Davis and Sacramento to San Diego. It inaugurated an ongoing newsletter in April, 1983 with a "premier" (and only) issue of its Bulletin. This was continued by the CMS Newsletter, and since 1986 by the California Map Society Newsletter. The Society has published three substantive occasional papers and two directories of cartographic resources in the State, as well as five editions of its invaluable membership directory.

During the ensuing sixteen years, the Society has not just continued, but has flourished, albeit through a few difficult moments when it wasn't always certain that volunteers would come forward to keep things going. If any evidence is needed that CMS is now quite robust, one need look no further than its ambitious and elaborate plans for the upcoming joint meeting with International Society of Map Collectors.

The efforts of all who have contributed over the years to the Society's continuing success, including those whose names appear in the succeeding pages, are to be highly commended.

Philip Hoehn
Map Librarian, Earth Sciences and Map Library
University of California, Berkeley
June 15, 1995

1979

PRESIDENT Norman J.W. Thrower
VICE-PRESIDENT Robert Winter (Northern California),
Sandra Lamprecht (Southern California)
SECRETARY Stuart Auchincloss
TREASURER Richard Hansen

PROGRAMS

November 3—California State University, Fullerton

The Cartography of Sir Francis Drake's Famous Voyage (1577-1580); Norman J.W. Thrower, Department of Geography, UCLA

Of Atlases and Adventures: The Rare and Restricted Geography Books in the California State University Long Beach Library; Sandra J. Lamprecht, CSU Long Beach

William Dampier: The Buccaneer Geographer; Judith A. Tyner, Department of Geography, CSU Long Beach

The Collection for the History of Cartography at California State University Fullerton; Roy V. Boswell, CSU Fullerton

Examination of the Collection for the History of Cartography, CSU Fullerton Library

1980

PRESIDENT Norman J.W. Thrower/Gerald Greenberg
VICE-PRESIDENT Robert Winter (N. Cal.), Judith Tyner (S. Cal.)
SECRETARY Stuart Auchincloss
TREASURER Richard Hansen

PROGRAMS

January 5—U.S. Geological Survey, Western Mapping Center Conference Facility (USGS), Menlo Park

Some Conventions, Standards and Changes of Historic Topographic Maps; and Comments on the Centennial Printing of the 1899 Palo Alto Quadrangle Map; James M. Morley, USGS

Examples of Marine Cartography by the U.S. Geological Survey; Tau Rho Alpha, USGS

Information Services and Cartographic Referencing Systems of the National Cartographic Information Center; Lee W. Aggers, USGS

Thematic Mapping Developments of the USGS; Land Information Analysis Maps, and the National Atlas; Ray Fox, USGS

Orthophoto Map Products of the USGS; Bill Johnson, USGS

Tour of Western Mapping Center; Mike Sety, USGS

March 15—University of California Los Angeles Research Library

Early Maps of Los Angeles; Neal Harlow
Nineteenth Century Reconnaissance Mapping in California; Robert H. Block

Map Resources of the Department of Special Collections at UCLA; Hilda Bohem

Examination of the UCLA Research Library Special Collections Map Collection

Visit to the UCLA Map Library; Carlos Hagen, Map Librarian

Optional tour of the Cartographic Facilities, UCLA Geography Department

1980 continued

April 24 & 25—Joint Conference of the California Map Society and the Western Association of Map Libraries, University of California, Davis

California State Archives Map Collection; David Snyder, Archivist, California State Archives, Sacramento
The State Lands Commission Map Collection; Roy Minnick, State Lands Commission

Cartographic Records in the U.S. Bureau of Land Management; Wilbur Conklin, Cadastral Branch, BLM
California-Nevada Border Problem; François Uzes, California State Lands Commission

Cartographic Records in the California State Railroad Museum; Walter Gray, III, State Railroad Museum

Hardware and Software for Computer Mapping; Jim Armantage, California Computer Products, Inc.

Computer Land Use Mapping at UC Davis; Peter Hunter, Director, Division of Environmental Studies, UC Davis

The Application of a Computer Based Geographical Data Handling System in the Epidemiological Analysis of a Disease Control Program; Marguerite Pappaioanou, D.V.M., Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, UC Davis

Putting Maps to Work in Advertising; Harold Otness, Map Librarian, Southern Oregon State College, Ashland

Signs on Maps: A Semiotic Interpretation; E. Dean MacCannell, Department of Applied Behavioral Sciences, UC Davis

The Water Atlas of California; William Kahrl, Editor/Project Director

November 1—University of California, Santa Barbara

Mini Computers and Automated Cartography; Waldo Tobler
Recent Ground and Air Oblique Photo Reconnaissance for Oblique Mapping at Mt. Saint Helens; Tau Rho Alpha, USGS, Menlo Park

Tour of Map and Imagery Laboratory; Larry Carver
Remote Sensing Demonstration; John Estes

1981

PRESIDENT Gerald Greenberg
VICE-PRESIDENT Judith Tyner
TREASURER Richard Hansen

PROGRAMS

January 24—University of California, Berkeley

The Mapping Impulse in Dutch Art; Svetlana Alpers, UCB
Television News Maps; Trish Caldwell, Caldwell & Associates

The Cartography of the 1685 Atlas of Basil Ringrose; Tony Cimolino, Graduate Student, UCLA

Geobased Information Systems Applications; Gilbert Castle, Vice President, Comarc Design Systems

April 25—University of California, Riverside

Contemporary Techniques in Vegetation Mapping; Richard Minnick, Department of Geology, UCR Earth Sciences

California's Earthquake Fault Map; Donald Stierman, Department of Geophysics, UCR Earth Sciences
Slides: Bureau of Land Management's Desert Master Plan

June 20—California State University, Hayward

Maps in Cartoons; Robert E. Winter, Department of Geography, CSU Hayward

The Voyage of the Paramour and the Cartography of Edmond Halley; Norman J.W. Thrower, Department of Geography, UCLA

Tour of Historic Map and Atlas Exhibits, Map Library and Special Collections Department

December 19—Railroad Museum Map Library, Sacramento

Exhibition and Tour of Museum; Walter Gray, Museum Archivist; Stephen Drew, Museum Curator

1982

PRESIDENT Gerald Greenberg
VICE-PRESIDENT Judith Tyner
SEC./TREASURER Noël Diaz

PROGRAMS

February 20—University of California, Los Angeles

Democracy and Maps in the Netherlands; Professor
Cornelis Koeman, Professor Emeritus of Cartography,
University of Utrecht

Display of Clark Memorial Library cartographic treasures
Tour of Special Collections; USC

June 12—California State University, Long Beach

Television News Maps; Trish Caldwell
*California Diseños: Mapping the Early California
Landscape*; David Hornbeck, Department of Geography,
CSU Northridge
Tour of Rancho Los Alamitos

November 20—San Jose State University

*Land Cover Mapping in Arctic Alaska Using LANDSAT
Digital Data*; Gail Thelin, Research Geographer, USGS
Geographic Investigation Office, NASA/Ames,
Moffett Field
*Data Collection and Compilation at California State
Automobile Association*; Charles Kurnow, Cartographer,
CSAA, San Francisco
*Computer Cartography for Urban Planning, San Jose,
California*; Nancy Milligan, Cartographer, Planning
Department, City of San Jose
Urban Terrain Analysis: Buildings and Urban Zones;
Richard Ellefsen, Director, Office of Sponsored
Research, SJSU

Tour of the Robert D. Clark Library

1983

PRESIDENT Gerald Greenberg
VICE-PRESIDENT Judith Tyner
SEC./TREASURER Noël Diaz
EDITOR Noël Diaz

PROGRAMS

April 9—California State University, Northridge,
Department of Geography

Maps for the Visually Handicapped; Eugene Turner,
Department of Geography, CSUN
Cartography and Public Policy: A Northridge Perspective;
William Bowen, Department of Geography, CSUN
Computer Aspects of the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands Atlas;
Norman J.W. Thrower, Joan Drake, and William Bradley,
Department of Geography, UCLA
*The Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Collection at California
State University, Northridge*; Michael Swift, Map
Curator, CSUN

November 12—Joint Meeting of the California Map Society and
the California Remote Sensing Council, San Francisco
State University

U.S. Forest Service Maps; Alan Ambacher and Richard
Spradling, U.S. Forest Service, San Francisco
Basis for Bay Area Spatial Information Systems; Paul
Wilson, GEOGROUP Corporation, Berkeley
Use of the Thematic Mapper in California Mapping; Stephen
de Gloria and Andrew Benson, University of California
Space Sciences Laboratory, Berkeley

Tour of The Bay Model Visitor Center, U.S. Army Corps of
Engineers, Sausalito

1984

PRESIDENT Gerald Greenberg
VICE-PRESIDENT Duilio Peruzzi (Northern California)
Vincent Mazzucchelli (Southern California)
SEC./TREASURER Noël Diaz
EDITOR Noël Diaz

PROGRAMS

May 12—University of California, San Diego, La Jolla Campus

The Hill Collection of Pacific Voyages; Linda Claasen, Head, Mandeville Department of Special Collections, the University Library, UCSD

The Sea Chart; Derek Howse, Head of Navigation and Astronomy at the Greenwich Observatory, U.K.

City Planning and Computerized Data Bases; Peter Minton, Director of Telemarketing, and Richard Zinne, Director of Special Projects, National Decision Systems, Inc.

Microfilm Utilization and Preservation in the Map Collection; Larry Cruse, Map Curator, the University Library, UCSD

Exhibits: Materials from the Hill Collection of Pacific Voyages, Thomas Bros. Maps of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, Selected Sea Charts from the Map Centre, San Diego

Visit to the Scripps Institution of Oceanography
Tour of The Map Centre

November 1-4—International Map Dealers' Association Fourth Annual Convention, San Francisco (not a formal CMS program)

1985

PRESIDENT Gerald Greenberg
VICE-PRESIDENT Duilio Peruzzi, Vincent Mazzucchelli
SEC./TREASURER Noël Diaz
EDITOR Noël Diaz

PROGRAMS

April 20—California State University, Fresno

New Physiographic Maps of Yosemite; Tau Rho Alpha, USGS, Menlo Park

The Tuscarora Connection: Diversionary Presentation of Sanborn Map Usage; Vlad Shkurkin, Publisher

The Evolution of Road Maps and the Automobile Club of Southern California; Andrew Nelson, Cartographer, Automobile Club of Southern California, Los Angeles

The "Quik-Draw" Drafting System demonstrated by the Geography Department of CSU Fresno

Tour of Henry Madden Library; Herb Fox, Map Librarian

September 11-16—Joint meeting of the California Map Society and the Society of University Cartographers

Sept. 12/13 (Southern California)

Tour of UCLA, including the Special Collections at the Research Library, the Belt Collection of Vinciana, the Dept. of Geography, and the UCLA Map Library

Field trips: Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Huntington Library

Sept. 14 (CSU Northridge)

Historical Cartography

Using Diseños and Other Historical References to Record California's First Fuel Crisis; Gayle Groenendaal, Center for the Study of Evolution on Origins of Life, UCLA

Plagiarism in Scottish Historical Cartography; Laurie McLean, Aberdeen University, Scotland

A Short Story on the Simple Contour Line; Anne E. Bailly-Kahn, Paris, France

The Mythological Geography of California—Origins, Development, Crystallization and Disappearance; Michael Mathes, Department of History, USF

1985 continued

Fr. Matteo Ricci: First Missionary Cartographer to China;
Cherie Semans, Department of Geography, UCB
Colonial Period Maps of the Sabana de Bogotá, Colombia;
Sylvia Broadbent, UC Riverside

Current Cartographic Tools, Problems and Instruction

Collections of Historical Maps in California; Norman J.W. Thrower, Director, Clark Library, Los Angeles
Cartography in Universities and Polytechnics in the British Isles with Special Reference to the Society of University of Cartographers; Tim Fearnside, Chair of SUC, University of Wales, Swansea, Wales
Atlases, Their Place and Purpose: The School Atlas; Herbert Sanford, Associate Research Fellow, College of St. Mark and St. John, Plymouth, England
Problems and Solutions for Mapping Historical Data; David Hornbeck, Department of Geography, CSUN
Quality Evaluation Methods in Cartography; Gerald Greenberg, USGS, National Mapping Division
The Role of Maps and Graphics in Teaching at a Distance; John Hunt, Social Science, Open University, Milton Keynes, England
Description of a Survey Now Being Conducted of University of California's Libraries to Determine the Feasibility of Creating a Machine-readable Database of California Maps for Inclusion in MELVYL, the UC On-line Catalog; Stanley Stevens, Map Librarian, UC Santa Cruz
Teaching Computer Cartography: Nuts, Bolts and Chips; David Maguire, Department of Geoscience, Plymouth Polytechnic, Plymouth, England
Cartographic Resources of Mexico; Robert Snyder, President of SnyderScope, La Mesa

Sept. 16 (Northern California)

Tour and exhibits; U.S. Geological Survey and National Cartographic Information Center, Menlo Park
Tours—Bancroft Library: Philip Hoehn, host; East Asiatic Library: Donald Shively, Director; UCB Map Room, Dept. of Geography: Cherie Semans, Daniel Holmes

1986

PRESIDENT Vincent Mazzucchelli
VICE-PRESIDENT David Howard (Northern California)
Karen Sapa (Southern California)
SECRETARY Alfred Newman

PROGRAMS

January 25—Nut Tree Restaurant, Vacaville

The Log of Columbus Matched to Maps; Robert Power, Owner, Nut Tree
Reflections on Collecting and People Met; Alfred Newman, Collector
Lt. Wheeler Survey at Camp Mojave, Arizona; François Uzes, California State Lands Commission

Exhibit: Collection mounted by David Howard of W. Graham Arader III Galleries, San Francisco

June 21—California State University, Los Angeles

Using Diseños and Other Historical References to Record California's First Fuel Crisis; Gayle Groenendaal, UCLA
Mapping the U.S./Mexican Borderlands from Reconnaissance Survey to Landsat Imagery; Norman J.W. Thrower, Director, Clark Library, Los Angeles
Processing Linear Data in Digital Format; Robert McMaster, UCLA
Automated Mapping and Geographic Information Systems; Jack Dangermond, Director, Environmental Systems Research Institute

Tour of the Southwest Museum