

## HISTORY OF THE CALIFORNIA MAP SOCIETY

**T**HE CALIFORNIA MAP SOCIETY was organized in the Bay Area in May 1978. Diane Rose North and Phil Hoehn were instrumental in pulling the first meetings together. A volunteer steering committee subsequently drafted a set of by-laws and in March 1979 the first officers were elected. Dr. Norman J. W. Thrower was the Society's first president.

Since its inception the Society has held forty-four general meetings, each with multiple presentations having to do with maps and mapping. Twice yearly meetings are held at locations in northern and southern California, often where important map collections can be viewed as part of the program. The Society formally became a non-profit corporation in 1987.

In addition to its own meetings, joint conferences have been held with the Western Association of Map Libraries (1980), the California Remote Sensing Council (1983), the Society of University Cartographers (1985), the Associates of the Stanford Universities Libraries (1991), and the International Map Collectors' Society (1995).

The Society has published five Occasional Papers including: *The Maps, Plans and Sketches of Herman Ehrenberg: A Cartobibliography* by Diane M. T. North, 1988 (No. 1), *Development of the American Atlas: 1790-1980* by Judith Tyner, 1989 (No. 2), and *The Mapping of California as an Island, an illustrated checklist* by Glen McLaughlin with Nancy H. Mayo, 1995 (No. 5).

The objectives and purposes are educational, namely, the preservation and dissemination of historical and contemporary cartography, primarily that of California, both for the members and the general public. This is accomplished by: Holding twice yearly conferences; compiling information about cartographers, historians, map libraries and dealers active within the state; educating the public through occasional publications and media presentations; supporting advancement in map production, utilization and preservation; encouraging research and teaching in the field of cartography; and promoting the exchange of cartographic products and information with other map societies.

Any person with an interest in maps qualifies for membership in the California Map Society. General Meetings are open to all with nominal registration fees. A quarterly newsletter keeps members informed of Society activities throughout the year. For membership information, contact: Bill Warren, 1109 Linda Glen Dr., Pasadena, California 91105. Email: [wjwarren@aol.com](mailto:wjwarren@aol.com).

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