Mapping London’s Orchards

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Spring 2012 – £3.00
Hello and welcome to this, the Spring edition of Maplines. Unless you are the sort of person who prefers the peace, darkness and solitude of living under a rock, then you cannot have failed to notice that 2012 is shaping up to be a big year for the UK. Not only is our Monarch celebrating another great landmark but the Olympic Games will be upon us by the time you receive your Summer issue of Maplines. As millions of people from all corners of the globe descend on our shores, it will be interesting to see how everyone deals with the different styles of maps and guides they are likely to require in order to navigate successfully London's vast transport network.

As I sit at my desk here in Central Scotland, I can’t help but feel a touch removed from the hype and the action that will undoubtedly surround the Games later in the year. But as a fan of sport I cannot wait for it to start! Indeed, as I quickly flick through this issue to seek editorial inspiration I am struck by the diversity of articles we have for you and the interest that they all generate. The views expressed in Maplines are those of the Editors and Contributors and not necessarily those of the BCS. The Society’s outreach programme continues to flourish. The Better Mapping events organised with the help of the AGI are continuing later in the year. The plan is to hold an advanced course at the home of the British Computer Society in July and two basic courses, the first in Dublin and the other at a location in the UK yet to be decided.

Our Restless Earth programme is progressing very strongly indeed. In February, following on from our Autumn workshops including one at Altrincham Boys School (see p. 12) we conducted two Restless Earth workshops based on the Japanese earthquake last year, the first for schools in the Chipping Norton area and the second in Kendal for schools there. Each workshop caters for between 50 and 100 students who work in teams of five. Each team has a co-ordinator who works with his or her military, medical, search and rescue and humanitarian specialists. The workshops last about two and a half hours and at the end of it each team will have produced at least one map, perhaps two. The task is to produce maps which will enable the aid agencies to deliver the aid and provide support to the survivors who, by then, should have been located and provided with some basic facilities. At the end of the workshop the maps are assessed and prizes awarded for the best. The feedback from the students makes it all so worthwhile. Here are just three examples:

- ‘It was interesting and a great time to test our group work skills and great to test our maths and map skills.’
- ‘I really enjoyed working as a team and having a change from the classroom. It was really interesting and informative and I think I have developed my geography skills massively.’
- ‘Having a real life situation and having to work from scratch, as you were completely in control about the choices you made. Also, there was an excellent range of resources.’

And a comment from one of the teachers:

- ‘It has been a brilliant session, which has enthused and engaged our students.’

Throughout the workshop the Society’s members provide help and advice to the students. We need a minimum of five BCS members to run each workshop but with just five it would be really hard work. Fortunately, we have had help from the tremendous RGS Ambassadors at each of the recent events at least doubling the number of mentors and increasing the value of the exercise for the students. Additionally, we are indebted to our workshop sponsors; Ministry of Defence, Steer Davies Gleave, Esri UK, Training 4 GIS, Global Mapping and, of course, RGS with IGB. The sponsors not only allow their staff the time to take part but also provide all sorts of assistance in the form of transport, maps (the majority of which are in Japanese) and the prises. All these contributions are very much appreciated.

Would anyone else like to help?

Peter Jolly
BCS President
The London Orchard Project, www.thelondonorchardproject.org, is a small London based charity aiming to promote orchards in London, be it planting new orchards, restoring old ones, or harvesting fruit trees.

Time and time again in our work, Londoners have asked us, ‘How many orchards are there in London?’ ‘Where are they located?’ ‘How many fruit trees are there in London and ‘Could London be self-sufficient in its apple needs?’

To answer these questions, we have recently embarked on an online mapping project, thanks to the generous support of the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Mayor’s RELEAF strategy.

The aims of our mapping project are to:

- Establish how many orchards there are in London, and how much fruit they are producing;
- Identify fruit trees that are currently un-harvested;
- Identify old orchard sites for restoration.

The data has identified approximately 200 spaces in London that could be orchards. However, this information is unlikely to be entirely accurate: some of the records are outdated, and the PTES survey was based on aerial photography.

An orchard as per the Habitat Action Plan definition is five trees with crown edges no less than 20 metres apart: spotting these in aerial photography in the urban environment is rather tricky!

We plan to use the lack of accuracy to our advantage by turning the map into a tool to engage Londoners in orchard activities in their local area: identifying orchards, harvesting fruit, potentially grafting old varieties and planting new trees. We are doing this by asking Londoners to visit our map and fill in some information about their local orchard. We are keen for Londoners to tell us about their orchard,

- How many trees?
- Are the trees mature or young?
- Is the orchard being maintained?
- How much fruit is being produced?
- Any information about fruit varieties?

We will be launching a programme to involve Londoners in surveying their local orchards in Spring 2012, to coincide with the blossom. Through this work, we will hopefully engage Londoners with their local orchards, as well as create a valuable resource, namely identifying fruit produced in the capital, volumes, location and so on. We believe this work is important, given our current high dependence on fruit imports, despite the fact that fruit is grown in London. The map will help us answer the question of just how much fruit is grown and where, which is potentially being a first step towards developing new fruit distribution models within London, and thereby enhancing our food security.

Natural England has kindly provided us with the necessary licence to make this information available online.

The map takes the form of an online Google map. The underlying data was gathered in a study commissioned by the GLA on our behalf in Spring 2011 from three key sources:

- The People’s Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) Traditional Orchard Survey based on Ordnance Survey Data.
- Interviews with biodiversity officers and other folk engaged in orchard activity in London.
- Greenspace Information for Greater London.

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I n the recently published Cities of the Classical World, the late author Dr. Colin McEvedy offers his last and, in many ways, most ambitious work. It’s an atlas and gazetteer of 120 Roman cities; each entry includes at least one map. Perhaps the most unique feature of the book is the fact that each map is drawn to a common scale, allowing the reader readily to appreciate the relative sizes of the principal cities in the Roman period.

The author, Dr. Colin McEvedy, was known to a wide audience for the series of historical atlases that he published with Penguin. As a friend and as someone who shared McEvedy’s enthusiasm for maps, I was privileged to help compile his last work and prepare it for publication.

When Colin McEvedy died in 2005, his atlas of ancient cities had not yet been compiled in a single convenient file. Many draft entries had been stored on his Macintosh desktop computer (one of the earliest models), and the source documents were scattered through the voluminous research folders in his extensive library. That library contained masses of information on European cities and regions, reflecting McEvedy’s wide ranging academic interests. It therefore took considerable time to bring his hand drawn maps, historical summaries, and bibliographical sources together into a finished work. For example, he had drawn a fascinating map of Rome at the end of the reign of the emperor Nero, but the accompanying legend had been misplaced (or had been in his head). There was also substantial work involved in converting McEvedy’s dozens of hand drawn maps into a digital format suitable for publication.

I met Colin McEvedy 25 years ago in the hot ruins of Aphrodisias, Turkey. He was leading his family through a succession of ancient cities in Anatolia, and our mutual interest in such cities supplied the foundation for a long friendship. Later, in 1996, I again joined him in Turkey, driving a rental car through sprawling library combined standard and bibliographical sources together into a finished work. For example, he had drawn a fascinating map of Rome at the end of the reign of the emperor Nero, but the accompanying legend had been misplaced (or had been in his head). There was also substantial work involved in converting McEvedy’s dozens of hand drawn maps into a digital format suitable for publication.

I particularly recall our visit to Perinthis, an ancient Greek city in Thrace that was well off the normal tourist path. There was little available information about the city in English sources, and McEvedy wanted to ascertain the locations of Roman city walls. The ancient walls were still sufficiently extant so that a person could walk on their crumbling stones through the modern town. One can only imagine what local townspeople thought when they saw an Englishman in a dark suit striding atop the old walls that bordered the gardens behind their houses. After pacing off one section of wall, he visited the town hall and managed to borrow the municipality’s official planning map as an aid to understanding the urban grid. Colin was tireless in his academic researches, both in books and in the field.

The assembly of McEvedy’s final book was a collaboration of many friends and family members. His three daughters helped track down files and retrieve key sources from the author’s library. His long time collaborator David Woodroffe undertook the time-consuming task of digitising the maps. His friends Jane and William Dorrell helped edit text and track down bibliographical details, and I was honoured to assist with final editing and creation of a comprehensive index. The gifted editing staff at Penguin weeded out remaining inconsistencies and polished up the work with an attractive hardcover design. The result is a unique blending of short histories, unique city maps, and compiled sources for those who wish to pursue further study of each city in the book.

It should also be noted that Colin McEvedy was not only an historian and cartographer. He was also well respected as a demographer. His best known work in that area was the Atlas of World Population History, published with Richard Jones in 1978. There, and in his various historical atlases, McEvedy argues that Roman cities had smaller populations than most modern historians believe. For example, he estimates that in AD 1, the population of Rome was unlikely to have exceeded 250,000, while many other...
The 2008 Election Recap

In the 2008 election, Senator Barack Obama (Democrat-Illinois) beat Senator John McCain (Republican-Arizona) in the popular vote, 69 million to 59 million, as well as in the Electoral College vote, 365 to 173. While the popular vote is impressive, it is the Electoral College that determines who will be President. The Framers of the U.S. Constitution created the Electoral College to reinforce federalism in the new republic and to avoid the tyranny experienced under King George III.

There are a total of 538 electors in the Electoral College, and a presidential candidate needs 270 votes to win - a majority of 538. The number of electors for each state matches the number of representatives and senators sent by a state to the U.S. Congress, with the exception of the District of Columbia, which gets 3 votes. The least populous states get 3 electoral votes, while the most populous state, California, gets 55 (awesome, dude). The winner of the popular vote in a state gets all the electoral votes, with the exception of Maine (4 votes) and Nebraska (5 votes), which can split their votes.

Map 1 reveals how the states were divided between Mr. Obama and Mr. McCain in 2008. It also displays electoral votes for the top 12 states. The top 11 states add up to 270 - the winning number - and the 12th state, Virginia, would be icing on the cake. Notice that Mr. Obama captured most of the major states, with the exception of Texas and Georgia.

The 2012 Election

At the time of this writing (February 2012), the Republican Party challengers to President Obama are all trying to be the most conservative, and, in the process, scaring the world with outrageous political rhetoric (even for Americans). Of course, many are fearful that one of these Republicans will become leader of the free world. I want to assure you, cartographically, that is unlikely to happen.

Map 2 sets the stage for the 2012 election by visualising the states that are traditionally safe for Democrats (blue), states that are safe for Republicans (red), and ‘swing states’ (purple) that could go either way. Again, due to the Electoral College, elections in the U.S. are won in individual states, not nationally.

Swing states, also known as battleground or toss-up states, are the focus of any presidential campaign.

Predictions of the 2012 elections more than half a year before election day, on November 6, are risky at best, so here are some assumptions I am working with for my ‘cartopolitics’ analysis:

- The U.S. (and hopefully World) economy will continue to improve; this favours Democrats.
- West coast states (California, Oregon, Washington), called the ‘left coast’ by Republicans, will vote Democratic;
- The Democrat’s core will be states in the West and Northeast;
- The core of the Republican vote will be in the South, and Republican candidates do best there if they are from the South;
- Swing states will be along the periphery of the core areas, where winning margins were less than 10 percentage points in 2008;
- In 2008, a record 132 million voters gave Democrats victory; in 2010, only 90 million voted, giving Republicans wins. Voter turnout is key.

Swing states will be critical to the election, but they will be more so for Republicans. First, in most elections, the incumbent, in this case President Obama, has an advantage, and he won with 365 votes - 95 more than the 270 necessary. This means that the Republican candidate, likely Mitt Romney or Rick Santorum, will need to get most of the swing states. Taking into account reasonably safe states for each party, President Obama has 257 votes, the Republicans can count on 142 votes, and there are 139 swing state votes. Based on these assumptions, President Obama is only 13 votes away from the magic 270 number and re-election; he would need only one medium-sized state, such as Virginia, to win.

Swing States in 2012

A qualifying note on swing states: Each political party has its own map of swing states. For example, Republicans name Wisconsin and Pennsylvania as swing states because the Republican National Committee Chair is from Wisconsin and one of the Republican candidates, Rick Santorum, is from Pennsylvania. But both states have a reliably Democratic voting history. Also, media companies tend to inflate the number of swing states, making the election seem more exciting and enticing for viewers. Below is a brief overview of the top two swing states in Map 2.

Florida: 29 electoral votes and leaning left.

This swing state possesses the most electoral votes and is a make or break state for Republicans; but voting history and demographics favor Democrats:

- Obama won 4.1 million votes, versus 3.5 in McCain in 2008;
- Democrats hold an edge in voter registration;
- Hispanics, about 23% of Florida’s population, favor Democrats;
- More of the 1.4 million registered Hispanic voters are Democrats;
- African Americans, 16% of Floridians, support Obama;
- A close Senate race should increase voter turnout for Democrats.

Ohio: 18 electoral votes and leaning left.

Republicans must win Ohio, as well as Florida, to survive electorally, especially to encourage Republicans to vote in later time zones. But trends look favorable for Democrats:

- Obama’s 2.7 million votes trumped McCain’s 2.5 million in 2008;
- The Republican governor’s popularity is waning;
- The re-election of a Democratic senator looks increasingly sure; African Americans, at 1.5 million, are a growing, pro-Democrat bloc;
- Latest polls show Obama beating Republican contenders in Ohio.

Should Republicans lose either Florida or Ohio, then President Obama wins re-election. The other swing states have too few electoral votes to make a difference. Of course, anything can happen since the election is more than half a year away, and Vaclav Havel put it best when he said, ‘None of us know all the possibilities that slumber in the spirit of the population, or all the ways in which that population can surprise us when there is the right interplay of events.’

David Miller
Geography Instructor
Northern Virginia Community College
damiller@nvcc.edu
Spider’s moving Castle: re-inscribing a ‘sense of place’

‘Spider’s Castle’... I first became aware of this strangely named place when I moved to Naccott (origin: Nuckholt or Oak Wood), in the Parish of Wye and Hinxhill, Kent, about five years ago. Old one inch to the mile OS maps give tantalising hints of a small settlement or farmstead on the Great Stour floodplain within easy walking distance of my home. Like the eponymous ‘Howl’s Moving Castle’ (2004 Japanese ‘anime’ fantasy film), its changing location seems to have been known locally for one site labelled (erroneously?) for the os Old Series map. This presents an opportunity to re-inscribe these places, to bring them alive again for future generations. OSM is clearly worthy, witness its use in the aftermath of the Haiti disaster, but rather unexciting in stylistic terms - OSM is to mapping, what the mall is to shopping! While the design aesthetic (colour, symbology, etc) of OSM does little to create a sense of place, why not make it a repository of a ‘sense of place’ for future generations? Maps exist for Spider’s Castle and Raymond’s Court sites – one, from 2008, is particularly exciting, providing evidence of the buildings shown on the OS Old Series map. The image also shows the former drainage system of the brook (prior to straightening) and two very regular water bodies (watercress beds?), now lost, but marked on several of the earlier maps. And what can we do? I suggest two resources offer themselves – OpenStreetMap and Google Earth. The first presents an opportunity and the second a potential record of these sites. Even if obliterated and levelled, occupation sites often leave traces as soil or crop marks, and sometimes as small differences in micro-topography or, as in the case of Spider’s Castle, distinct areas of uncultivated land, often with the ghosts of garden’s evinced by cultivated fruit trees and robust garden plants such as rambling roses. Faint traces may be visually enhanced by environmental factors such as drought causing scorch marks where crop or grass may not obtain sufficient moisture, for instance, over buried stone or brick foundations. These can often be observed on Google Earth images, especially as it is now possible to check several ‘historical images’ for different seasons. Three images exist for Spider’s Castle and Raymond’s Court sites – one, from 1958, is particularly exciting, providing evidence of the buildings shown on the OS Old Series map. The image also shows the former drainage system of the brook (prior to straightening) and two very regular water bodies (watercress beds?), now lost, but marked on several of the earlier maps.

New Popular Edition, Sheet 173, 1:53360, 1945), although a photograph of c.1910 and several of the maps suggest a location where the road crosses a brook, a tributary of the Stour. This chalk stream, which runs from the village of Brook at the base of the North Downs, seems to have been known locally as Spider’s Castle Dyke, although not so named on any map. The name is not unique, there is one other “Spider’s Castle” in Kent (Eastchurch), as well as five ‘Rat’s Castles’ and a ‘Filchborough’ (in Crundale, the next parish to Wye and Hinxhill), which means ‘polecats’ borough’. Such names are often assumed to be associated with ruined buildings, but this does not seem to be the case here, as the census has people living at the site in the nineteenth century.

A web search has revealed little more - a single photo of a house, with a comment that the building was demolished after WWII. Several ‘family history’ sites reveal the names of what may have been the last inhabitants of Spider’s Castle, the Goldups, James and Jane, and their six children. James is listed in the census as a shepherd and formerly an agricultural labourer. This seems appropriate, as Dudley Stamp’s Land Use Survey (1930s) shows extensive pastures along the floodplain, although much is now intensively drained and turned over to arable production. One son seems to have been a barber at the brickworks at nearby Naccott.

This article is not intended as a work of local history; I am sure there is much more to find out about ‘Spider’s Castle’. Rather, the issue is how can we retain the genius loci with which such names - ‘Cold Harbour’, ‘Rat’s Castle’, and ‘Frogbrook’ – another lost farmstead just across the Stour from Spider’s Castle - invest our landscapes? How do we preserve a ‘sense of place’ for future generations? Maps re-inscribing a ‘sense of place’ by ploughing is suggestive of broken piece of brick or tile revealed from the OS maps, although some small feature is often left on the ground. What can we do? I suggest two resources offer themselves – OpenStreetMap and Google Earth. The first presents an opportunity and the second a potential record of these sites. Even if obliterated and levelled, occupation sites often leave traces as soil or crop marks, and sometimes as small differences in micro-topography or, as in the case of Spider’s Castle, distinct areas of uncultivated land, often with the ghosts of garden’s evinced by cultivated fruit trees and robust garden plants such as rambling roses. Faint traces may be visually enhanced by environmental factors such as drought causing scorch marks where crop or grass may not obtain sufficient moisture, for instance, over buried stone or brick foundations. These can often be observed on Google Earth images, especially as it is now possible to check several ‘historical images’ for different seasons. Three images exist for Spider’s Castle and Raymond’s Court sites – one, from 2008, is particularly exciting, providing evidence of the buildings shown on the OS Old Series map. The image also shows the former drainage system of the brook (prior to straightening) and two very regular water bodies (watercress beds?), now lost, but marked on several of the earlier maps. And what can we do? I suggest two resources offer themselves – OpenStreetMap and Google Earth. The first presents an opportunity and the second a potential record of these sites. Even if obliterated and levelled, occupation sites often leave traces as soil or crop marks, and sometimes as small differences in micro-topography or, as in the case of Spider’s Castle, distinct areas of uncultivated land, often with the ghosts of garden’s evinced by cultivated fruit trees and robust garden plants such as rambling roses. Faint traces may be visually enhanced by environmental factors such as drought causing scorch marks where crop or grass may not obtain sufficient moisture, for instance, over buried stone or brick foundations. These can often be observed on Google Earth images, especially as it is now possible to check several ‘historical images’ for different seasons. Three images exist for Spider’s Castle and Raymond’s Court sites – one, from 2008, is particularly exciting, providing evidence of the buildings shown on the OS Old Series map. The image also shows the former drainage system of the brook (prior to straightening) and two very regular water bodies (watercress beds?), now lost, but marked on several of the earlier maps. And what can we do? I suggest two resources offer themselves – OpenStreetMap and Google Earth. The first presents an opportunity and the second a potential record of these sites. Even if obliterated and levelled, occupation sites often leave traces as soil or crop marks, and sometimes as small differences in micro-topography or, as in the case of Spider’s Castle, distinct areas of uncultivated land, often with the ghosts of garden’s evinced by cultivated fruit trees and robust garden plants such as rambling roses. Faint traces may be visually enhanced by environmental factors such as drought causing scorch marks where crop or grass may not obtain sufficient moisture, for instance, over buried stone or brick foundations. These can often be observed on Google Earth images, especially as it is now possible to check several ‘historical images’ for different seasons. Three images exist for Spider’s Castle and Raymond’s Court sites – one, from 2008, is particularly exciting, providing evidence of the buildings shown on the OS Old Series map. The image also shows the former drainage system of the brook (prior to straightening) and two very regular water bodies (watercress beds?), now lost, but marked on several of the earlier maps.
Restless Earth
the school experience

I can remember distinctly the morning of March 11th 2011, I was eating my breakfast and getting ready for school just as I would on any other day. But something on the early morning news caught my attention. A devastating earthquake had occurred off the east coast of Japan, and reports were beginning to surface that a colossal tsunami had obliterated much of Japan’s coastline.

I looked on in shock as footage of a city being submerged in just minutes was shown, and of a wall of water smashing through a seaside town. I was horrified. How could something so catastrophic happen so suddenly? Like many others, I felt a natural urge to help these people, who were shown in soaked rags standing outside the wrecked remains of their homes. What I didn’t consider as carefully was what would happen to the money that we, back in England, had sent off: who would distribute it? What would it be used for? How would it get there? Here in Britain, it’s very easy to make a donation and congratulate yourself, thinking ‘Hey, I’ve just saved someone’s life!’ But in reality, it’s never that simple. It was through this workshop, organised by the British Cartographic Society, that it dawned on me just how extensive and thorough planning needs to be when you’re coordinating a relief effort and racing against the clock to save lives.

The workshop began with a short introduction by the Cartographic Society, who informed us of the important role maps play in real life disaster relief planning and military operations. After that, we were given our respective roles and given a short briefing on what each of them entailed. I was a medical officer, my job being to find suitable locations for field hospitals, to establish a medical command centre and to evaluate the effectiveness of existing hospitals in the Sendai area. With these tasks came a real sense of responsibility: I can’t think of a more important job than to ensure the safety and wellbeing of those affected by the disaster. Therefore, I had to be sensitive and conscientious in my choice of hospital locations.

To help us make these crucial decisions, a variety of maps had been provided as well as access to the internet. Each map had unique features that made it useful: one showed elevation and terrain types which was useful because building on flat land is vital. Others showed Sendai City in detail, while another gave the various transport options to and around the city. However, each map came with its pitfalls: some dated back to 30 years ago and a few lacked important place names and reference points. By far the most important ones at that, were written in Japanese. But we persevered, and deciphered the meanings of the characters. After one and a half hours, we were well on our way to completing our relief plan.

During relief operations there are a variety of organisations working together very closely, from the military and search and rescue teams to the people in charge of delivering vital supplies like food, medicine and water. As well as requiring there to be a lot of teamwork and cooperation in my group, it made us realise just how closely all these groups have to work in order for relief operations to be effective. A lack of communication, and a supplies manager could find his supply packages being dropped off in an airport 50 kilometres from where he needed to get them because the military chief wanted an airport big enough to hold all his C-130 planes.

Just like in real life, compromises had to be reached. We had to find a balance between placing our buildings close to the disaster area but not in the flooded or radioactive zones, which took careful map reading and heated discussion over whether we should requisition a golf course in order to build a helicopter base. After considering the advice of some university students helping out in the workshop, and using out-of-the-box thinking to identify one of the aerial obstructions on the map for helicopter pilots as Fukushima Nuclear Reactor, with the help of a member of the Cartographic Society, our goal had been accomplished and we’d completed our map.

The workshop really made me realise how naïve it was to think that by throwing money at a disaster we could just make it disappear. Behind the scenes, there is a huge amount of planning going on to cover every single detail of a relief operation, because in situations like these where it’s crucial that there are no errors, maps are our greatest tool. It’s through the power of cartography and mapping that relief operations like the one in Japan have been successful.

Truly, maps do save lives.

Neel Ghosh
Altrincham Grammar School for Boys

The BCS Schools outreach initiative, Restless Earth continues to go from strength to strength. We were introduced to the Staffordshire Learning Net website just before Christmas as a good site for contacting the secondary education sector countrywide. Our publicity went onto the website on 3rd January and by 6th January we had received 14 requests from schools for more information. We have already run several workshops this year and will be running more later in the year including at the Annual Symposium in June (see p. 22).

Within Restless Earth we are working in close partnership with the RGS and their Geography Ambassador programme; their support has been invaluable in ensuring that we have sufficient volunteers to support each session. When we visited Altrincham Grammar School for Boys in late Autumn 2011, we asked if one of their pupils would write a review of the workshop for us. We were very impressed by Neel Ghosh’s response to our challenge.

Pete Jones
Chair, Programme Committee

Schools Workshop

Visit the BCS website at www.cartography.org.uk

Visit the BCS website at www.cartography.org.uk
Mind the Map: Inspiring Art, Design and Cartography

A new exhibition at London Transport Museum, opening on the 18th May, will celebrate the Underground’s creative and influential use of maps. In the last 100 years, the Underground has not only issued maps to help passengers navigate and understand London’s growing Tube network, it also generated a separate yet complementary strand in popular mapmaking. Pioneered in 1914 by MacDonald Gill’s By Paying us your Pennies, decorative maps used as a form of modern publicity to promote leisure travel, became an established and popular part of the Underground’s poster programme. Mind the Map reveals the fascinating history behind these two distinctive types of mapping. In both capacities these maps have inspired art, design and cartography worldwide.

The Tube map
The first map to present all the capital’s underground railways as one integrated network was issued in 1908. At the time, lines were run by independent operating companies and the new map represented a more coordinated approach to their publicity. As the Tube network grew, mapping every station clearly on a convenient pocket-sized map became a challenge. In 1931, however, a young engineering draughtsman named Henry (Harry) Beck came up with an enduring design solution. Abandoning principles of geographical accuracy and scale, to which previous maps adhered, Beck employed his own bespoke set of rules determined by geometry. By doing this, he transformed the map into a diagram. Beck’s radical new design exclusively used straight lines and angles of either 45 or 90 degrees, expanding the proportions of the congested central area so that stations could be clearly and evenly spaced along lines.

A major highlight of the exhibition is the display of three original preliminary drawings for Harry Beck’s iconic design. One is a very early sketch made in 1931, which is on loan to London Transport Museum from the V&A. Another is his final presentation drawing, which gave fully functioning form to his radical new approach. Remarkably, when Beck speculatively submitted this meticulously hand-drawn map to the Underground’s Publicity Office, it initially met with little enthusiasm. But Beck persevered. The following year, the Underground decided to try out his diagrammatic design, which was eventually issued as a pocket map in January 1933. The third Beck drawing on display in the exhibition reveals a stage between the presentation drawing and the final printed map. This reworking of the map, in black ink alone, is an exciting new acquisition for the Museum and has never before been on public display.

Maps pre and post Beck reveal the key developments in the Tube map’s design over the last 100 years. In this section of the exhibition is the original artwork for a cartoon by Peter Vujakovic; this is not to be missed by Maplines readers. The witty adaptation of the 16th century Ditchley Portrait presents Queen Elizabeth I standing on a Tube map, rather than a map of England. It first featured in the Winter 2009 edition of Maplines, paying topical reference to the contentious removal of the river Thames from the Tube map that September. The river, a popular and consistent feature of the map since 1926, was promptly reinstated following a public debate fuelled by the social-media.

MacDonald (Max) Gill and the decorative poster map
To support the exhibition’s stunning display of Gill’s decorative poster maps, material has been loaned to London Transport Museum from the artist’s estate. This includes photographs, a colour proof, two original artworks, a personal diary from 1914 recounting his work on the final stages of By Paying us your Pennies and a 17th century map of Dorset that belonged to Gill. He certainly drew inspiration from early maps, evident in his use of elaborate heraldry and decorative borders, but he added humour, warmth and a deep, contemporary knowledge of London that made his maps current and unique. Once their striking size and colour had turned heads, there was something in the detail for everyone. As well as promoting off peak travel, posters of this kind were intended to establish goodwill by entertaining Underground passengers as they waited on platforms. Gill’s designs actually worked a little too well, as newspapers reported that some passengers were so entertained that they actually missed their trains!

Following on from Gill’s work, a display of posters from the mid 1920s to the early 1930s reveals how maps were being employed in a variety of Underground posters. As well as ‘Gill-style’ decorative maps, other unique examples include an...
London Underground Map: Art, Design and Cartography, by Claire Dobbin, will be published by Lund Humphries in May, to coincide with the opening of the exhibition. The book comprises three detailed and lavishly illustrated chapters on MacDonald Gill and the use of decorative maps for publicity, Harry Beck and the design of the Tube map, and a final chapter on how Beck’s iconic map has inspired art, advertising, product design and the public imagination worldwide.

**Continued from p. 7** historians estimate a million or more. McEvedy’s arguments for smaller populations reflect his combined knowledge of historical sources and the physical dimensions enclosed by city walls.

If Colin McEvedy had finished his own book, he doubtless would have maintained the modest silence about himself that typified his earlier publications. One benefit of allowing others to finalise the book on his behalf was the opportunity to add an introduction about the author, who was one of Britain’s most extraordinary minds.

In his obituary, The Independent rightly called McEvedy a polymath. His knowledge on a wide range of subjects relating to history, architecture, demography, and cartography was extraordinary. At the same time, he was a fascinating person to meet, happy to test in conversation his historical theories with others who might share his interests. His love for the ancient world was infectious.

While there are many books on ancient cities, McEvedy’s new and final contribution to that subject is likely to remain a standard reference for many years. Few major Roman cities are undergoing major excavations that are likely to fundamentally change our understanding of their ancient plans. Moreover, McEvedy’s combination of expertise in history, cartography and demography was a rare one, especially in an academic world that often courages sub-specialisation in preference to the broad synthesising of knowledge.

As a long-time friend of Colin McEvedy, I miss the fascinating hours of conversation in which I was at best privileged to play Dr. Watson to his Holmes, but it gives me great pleasure that he will continue to speak to readers through the words of his final book on Roman cities.

Douglas Stuart Oles
Editor, Cities of the Classical World
Five mins with our new Corporate Liaison Officer

Alan Grimwade is our new Corporate Liaison Officer returning to the role after a very successful run a few years ago. We caught up with Alan to find out more about both him and his plans.

Alan, you were previously our Corporate Liaison Officer. What made you return?

When asked if I was interested in taking up the role again it got me looking closer at the membership and the way the BCS has moved forward since I was last involved. The numbers have increased and the membership is far more diverse; many are unknown to me. I firmly believe every member has something different to bring to the table and I hope we can encourage each member to look at what they have to offer and take the opportunities that are there to promote their business. This will make for a much stronger BCS and be a real benefit to all members.

What is your day job?

I am Managing Director of Cosmographics Limited. Established in 1987 with the founding principles to provide a fully comprehensive, quality cartographic service. To this day we maintain those very same principles and I have a team of dedicated professional cartographers; we pride ourselves on the quality of work we produce.

SatNav or paper maps?

Paper everytime. I don’t own a SatNav as I enjoy navigating myself. If I had a SatNav I would make sure that I had my Atlas to hand. The two together would be ideal.

How long have you been involved in cartography?

I graduated in 1980 with a BSc Hons degree in Land Surveying Sciences and joined Hunting Surveys as a cartographic technician. We all started at the drawing table, pen and ink, scribbling, stencils, and learnt the basics on map design, the good old days…..

How and why cartography?

I didn’t know what I wanted to do when I was at school, but an astute careers officer simply asked me what I enjoyed – art, geography and technical drawing I responded. I was directed towards a Land Surveying Sciences course and my interest in maps started there. It’s an artform and I take great satisfaction from the art of producing and designing maps.

Pen and Ink v Digital

There is a real satisfaction that cannot be surpassed when drawing anything manually, you are crafting the map and placing your own mark on it. Just as when we used a pen or brush, computers and software packages (Mac or GIS) are only tools and the same cartographic skills are required, but you don’t necessarily need to be good at drawing anymore. You do however, need to understand and appreciate what makes a map work. I think something was lost in the transition from manual to digital and we need to put more of the personal touch back into maps and be proud of our work.

What is your favourite Map?

The one I am working on at the moment.

What are your objectives as Corporate Liaison Officer?

We must as an organisation ensure there are member benefits. It is important Corporate Members are aware of the benefits and how they can use the BCS as a forum to network with likeminded businesses and increase their profile within the industry. The BCS is in many ways bucking the trend with continued growth of Membership. Let us maintain an open dialogue and work together. A healthy structure will help to provide a fully comprehensive, quality cartographic service.

Historical Military Mapping Group

Message from John Peaty new Convenor of the HMMG Special Interest Group:

I have recently taken over as Convenor of the Historical Military Mapping Group. The Group has unfortunately not been very active in organising events and producing newsletters in recent years and I plan to change that. I cannot of course do everything by myself (the day job keeps me rather busy) and so I trust that I can count on the support of those within the BCS interested in historical military mapping, which I suspect to be sizeable number. I believe that there are many more members of the BCS who are unaware of the Group because of its recent inactivity, especially those who are fairly new to the Society. I would be grateful if any member interested in the subject and the Group would get in touch with me. It is of course permissible to belong to more than one Group within the BCS.

If you could go anywhere in the world right now, where would you go?

I would love to go to the Antarctic and I know quite a few people that would like to send me there!

I would particularly welcome any offers of support and any suggestions for visits, seminars, conferences, publications etc. We are amidst the 200th anniversaries of the Peninsular War and the 70th anniversaries of the Second World War; the centenaries of the First World War will be upon us before long. A historical military mapping seminar is being held immediately after the BCS Annual Symposium, on the road at Hemel Hempstead, Berkshire on Sunday 16th June, to which all members of the HMMG are invited.

Dr John Peaty FRGS FRHistS. johnpeaty@aol.com

Omnium Gatherum

Calling All Fellows

The Programme Committee is currently reviewing the events that we hold and how we engage with our members. We are currently reviewing the Fellows’ Evening and would ask all Fellows to kindly complete a short survey on how they would like to see their event held in the future.

It will only take a few moments to complete and we will publish the results in the next issue of Maplines. Fellows can undertake the survey online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/BCS_Fellows. Alternatively if you would like to receive a paper copy to complete please contact Roger Hore (see p. 23) for a copy to be sent to you. Please ensure you have completed the survey no later than 31 May 2012.

We look forward to receiving your comments.

Peter Jones
Chair, Programme Committee

Bob Lilley bids Ordnance Survey farewell

Our current President, Peter Jolly recently turned his hand to a little on-the-spot reporting for Maplines.

‘I went to Bob Lilley’s (BCS Immediate Past President) farewell presentation at Ordnance Survey on 19 December 2011. Among other things Bob was presented with a map of Manchester United’s Old Trafford football ground (still wrapped) by the DG and CE, Vanessa Lawrence CB. The photograph was taken, without prejudice, by your President who is a Manchester City supporter!’

Martin Lubkowski
Chair, Publications Committee

BCS is celebrating!

In 2013 the BCS will be celebrating our 50th birthday. Seems like just yesterday since the Society was established but it is 50 years!

Do you have any photographs and other memorabilia that could be featured as part of the celebrations? If so, please send details to me at mldesign@btclick.com

Visit the BCS website at www.cartography.org.uk
Managing the ICA Commissions

As well as strategic issues, more pragmatic management tasks were outlined. The operation of a Commission, by the Chair elected by the ICA General Assembly, involves appointment of a Vice-Chair (from a different country) – or occasionally more than one Vice-Chair, to reflect widespread geographical interest. Other membership was considered – and how individuals contribute to Commissions. Activities of a Commission were outlined, including holding workshops and promoting publications. All such activities are governed by the ICA Statutes. Practical advice was also given on the hosting and linking of Commission websites, the budget expectations and good financial management, and the reporting regime and the need to keep the Executive Committee and ICA informed.

Joint Commission activities were encouraged, as was involvement in the International Cartographic Conferences. All Commission Chairs are members of each ICA Scientific Committee and therefore have an important role to play in their development and success. For relevant Commissions, encouragement was given to collaborate with relevant groups outside ICA, both formal (e.g. United Nations) and informal groupings (e.g. user communities), and to engage in the development of capacity-building workshops and outreach.

The meeting also heard from Vice-President Menno-Jan Kraak, about the updated ICA Research Agenda, driving the scientific activities of each Commission, and from Michael Peterson, the new Chair of the ICA Publications Committee, about the opportunities for publications initiated by Commission activities.

Traditionally, ICA has been a ‘bottom-up’ organisation, in which Commission chairs have had significant freedom to develop their own agendas and activities. The Vienna meeting strengthened that approach by demonstrating to both new and experienced Chairs what support they can expect from the new ICA Executive, and how they can address their self-defined Terms of Reference. Similarly, there was an indication of what ICA expects from the Commissions and how the ultimate governing body of ICA, its General Assembly, will judge the Commissions at its next meeting in 2015.

Seven UK cartographers attended the Vienna meeting, and each had the opportunity to contribute to wide ranging discussion about the operations and strategic role of Commissions, and ensure that the voice of British cartography remains strong in the international cartographic community. Those BCS members willing to contribute to the work of any ICA Commission, full list at the ICA website, www.icaci.org, is encouraged to participate by contacting the relevant Chair to record their interest: 

UKCC in Vienna

BS members will be aware of the important role played by British cartography in the international arena, notably through the International Cartographic Association (ICA). After elections at the ICA General Assembly in Paris in July 2011, the UK found itself unrepresented on the ICA Executive Committee for the first time since 1987. However, British cartography is increasingly active within the core bodies of ICA, the Commissions, which undertake a significant amount of research work on topics outlined in the formal ICA Research Agenda, and which are central to the development of cartography as a discipline. The 2011 General Assembly appointed 28 Commissions, with four having UK Chairs (Map Design, chair Ken Field; Open Source Geospatial Technologies, Chair Suchith Anand; Neocartography, Chair Steve Chilton; and Maps & Society, Chair Chris Perkins). The UK also contributes an even larger number of Vice-Chairs (History of Cartography, Peter Collier; Geovisualisation, Jason Dykes; Digital Technologies in Cartographic Heritage, Alastair Pearson; Map Design, Alex Kent; Generalisation & Multiple Representations, William Mackaness; Use and User Issues, David Forrest; and Education & Training, David Fairbairn).

Clearly, it is within the Commission structure of ICA that the voice of British cartography is best heard in international circles.

So, in the Autumn of 2011, a new Executive Committee, a new set of Commissions and some new managerial guidelines and procedures, were all sound reasons for convening a meeting of ICA Commission Chairs and representatives in Vienna. With one exception, all Commissions were represented, a stimulating gathering of 50 cartographers from around the World. The overall aim of the meeting was to enhance contact between Commissions, to share views on the nature of cartography, and to learn about practical aspects of running an ICA Commission successfully.

After initial introductions, participants were asked to define themselves (some chose ‘map-maker’, some considered themselves as ‘geospatial scientists’, some felt they were ‘geographic data users’, the majority identifying themselves as ‘cartographers’ ...), and also position their Commissions within a triangular subject-space, with vertices ‘Art’, ‘Technology’, and ‘Science’. Based on these divisions, break-out groups were then formed and further topics of discussion were addressed including, how the work of ICA is reflected by the Commissions, and what ICA brings to the work of a Commission.

This meeting was a UK perspective...
Symposium 2012

This year’s Symposium will be held at Basingstoke County Hotel, Netley Scures, Nr Hook, Hampshire from Wednesday 13th June to Friday 15th June.

The three days of activities start with the increasingly popular schools’ Workshop Restless Earth – Mapping Natural Disasters. As the Symposium is part of the London Mapping Festival 2011-2012 (LMF) we are happy to welcome MapAction who will join us at the Schools session, running a workshop to explain their work in natural disaster zones.

This will be followed in the afternoon by the GIS SIG, looking at the use of GIS in the charity and not-for-profit organisations which is increasing rapidly. The presenters at the SIG will discuss and explore how GIS is being utilised to help charities better communicate their work through mapping and to analyse various aspects of their business.

The Symposium proper starts on Wednesday evening when our President, Peter Jolly will open the exhibition. Over Thursday and Friday we have a range of papers and workshops, an external visit, an art exhibition, a golf tournament, a commercial exhibition, the Awards Ceremony and Gala Dinner as well as plenty of networking opportunities, competitions and hopefully the occasional cup of tea!

Subscriptions for 2012 are now overdue.

All members who renew their membership subscriptions by credit card, cheque etc (except for Standing Orders) were sent membership renewal letters in December 2011 and so far there has been a good response, but there are still quite a few members whose subscriptions are still outstanding, so please do not delay – RENEW NOW! Members have a choice of four methods of payment:

- Our new more secure on-line payment system at; www.cartography.org.uk (Click Renew on the homepage)
- Personal cheque payable to The British Cartographic Society. (Or for overseas members a Sterling Draft payable in London)
- Visa/Mastercard/Delta credit/debit card.
- Standing Order. (UK bank account holders only)

In May a final reminder letter will be sent to all members whose subscriptions are still outstanding. If payment has not been received by 1 July 2012, their names will be removed from the society mailing lists for The Cartographic Journal and Maplines and, finally, suspension from the Society.

Membership

At the end of 2011, the Society had 616 current members. Regrettably 39 members had their membership suspended for non-payment of subscriptions; this was slightly offset by the 89 new members joining throughout the year. This year has started off well with 13 new members joining since January.

New members:

The Society has the pleasure of welcoming the following new members who have joined since the publication of the Winter Edition of Maplines in December 2011.

Corporate Members:

ALBERT KIEFER (Netherlands), Cartographic & Printing Consultancy (UK), Norwich City Council, Oce UK Ltd.

UK Members:

Mr G Adcock, Mr A T Cambell, Mr M Gower, Mrs E Horton, Mr M Humphrey, Mr I L Macfarlane, Mrs E Munsfield, Miss K McBride, Mrs S McKibbin, Mrs L Merrington, Mr C Piccinini, Ms A Pritchard, Mr S Schmoller, Mr S R Troth, Mr H A Tull, Ms H Van Ness, Mr T Wastling.

Overseas Members:

Mr G James (Australia).

UK Associate Members:

Mr R Beecham, Miss S Goodwin, Mr A Kachkaev, Mr L Perricone.

BCS Council

You will find enclosed in this issue of Maplines a form for nominating members to the BCS Council. Council is the Society’s governing body; it is vital for the Society that it consists of a fair representation of the members clearly reflecting the diversity of the Society. The Society’s President and Vice President are keen to get new Council members on board to help achieve the strategic objectives and to strengthen the Society. Council must be a dynamic body where lively debate on how to take the Society forward can take place. Please consider carefully what role you could play within the Society, and whether you would wish to stand for election to Council this year.

If you wish to stand, please find two other members who are willing to propose and second you, and ensure the enclosed form is completed and returned to the address on the form by 1st August 2012. Forms can be mailed or faxed. If you want more information about what it might involve, or if you wish to stand but need help in contacting other members to nominate you, please contact me at BCS Administration.

And finally…

When you receive this Spring Edition of Maplines I hope we can truly say it is Spring and that we have left the winter weather behind, although I must admit that I only had to clear snow off my drive once and to be quite honest I would rather have snow than the windy grey skies of February. I foresee a busy year ahead and am looking forward to the challenge. I apologise for the amount of emails that members have received and will receive throughout the year but with the forecast hike in postal charges due April, emails are the most cost effective way of transmitting information to members. So again my never ending plea is if you change your email address please let the office know. For all of you who renewed their memberships online through our new secure system, my thanks, as it certainly cut down on the amount of paperwork. Would members who have not yet renewed their memberships please do so and thereby avoid receiving final reminder letters. I look forward to renewing friendships and acquaintances at the BCS Symposium in June and perhaps making some new ones.

BCS Administration

15 The Crescent
Ilkeston, Derby
DE7 6GL, England

Tel/Fax: +44(0)115 9328684
Email: admin@cartography.org.uk

See the full programme and list of speakers on the BCS website.

We have been delighted this year with the overwhelming response to the call for papers. We have four fascinating sessions focusing on Changing Times, Transport Mapping, The ‘Art’ in Cartography and Olympic Mapping. The workshops reflect the themes of the talk sessions; we will have a discussion on art, demonstrations of the latest technological developments including those used for Olympic mapping and transport mapping. The Design SIG is also contributing to the workshop programme this year looking at Maps for growing minds.

An important note is accommodation is available on site but is limited. Therefore to guarantee your overnight stay please book before 4th May 2012. Accommodation may be available after this date but can not be guaranteed.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Symposium and working together on Mapping the global village.

Chair, Programme Committee

Pete Jones

MAPS FOR GROWING MINDS

Map as metaphor

Creating web maps

‘Zen and the art of cartography’

‘Creating web maps’

‘Making a practical transit map’

‘Map as metaphor’

‘Zen and the art of cartography’

‘Making a practical transit map’

Mapping the Global Village

Visit the BCS website at www.cartography.org.uk
Quiz – London Transport Museum

This Edition we have a great two-part prize, a copy of ‘London Underground Maps: Art, Design and Cartography’ by Claire Dobbin (more details on p. 16), plus a signed poster of the amazing map of subterranean London by Stephen Walter, which features both in the exhibition and the book.

To enter just send your answers to maplines.editors@gmail.com

1. Which portrait of Queen Elizabeth I formed the inspiration for the *Maplines* cartoon featured in the exhibition?

2. Complete the quote ‘This old map of London _________ you how many Underground roads there are today’.

3. What year was the first pioneering map produced by MacDonald Gill?

4. Since which year has the River Thames appeared on the map of the Underground?

5. Where did the original London Transport Museum open in 1920 and what was its official name?

6. Who designed the Flower Market, Covent Garden, the current home of the London Transport Museum?

The winner of the Winter 2011 quiz was David Bennett, from Kidderminster.