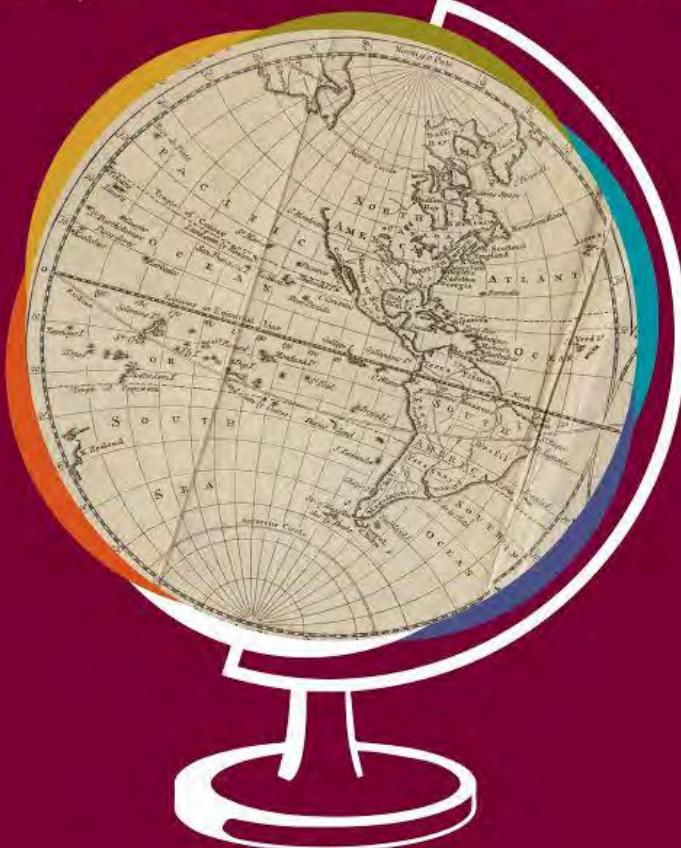


Ordering the Unknown

{ European Maps from 1600-1850
an exhibition Fall 2014

Ordering the Unknown

The European Mapping Tradition from 1600 to 1860



Fall 2014

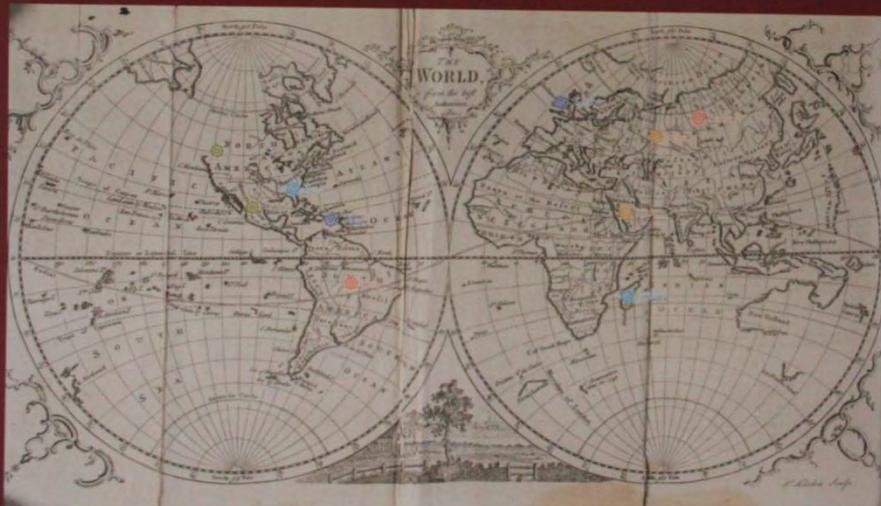
History Department, Stokes Hall, South Wing

Reception: Thursday, September 23, 2014, from 4-6pm

Sponsored by the History Department and the Boston College Libraries.

Ordering the Unknown

The European Mapping Tradition from 1600 to 1860



Map from *A New Geographical, Historical and Commercial Grammar* by William Guthrie, London: J. Knox, 1774. General Collection, John J. Burns Library, Boston College.

Timeline 1600

Sack - Giacomo Gastaldi's *Epitome*, a Map Below the Earth

Map - Cornell de Bruijn's *Bruit*

Timeline 1600

Lorenz - Mapping Brazil's Colonies

Duo - Alexander von Humboldt and the Mapping of New Spain

Timeline 1600

Cesar - Lightning New Spain

Jac - The Wilkes Expedition

Timeline 1600

Giacobini - *Geographia*

Piri - Ottoman Map of the Americas

Timeline 1600

Hodges - *Encyclopaedia Britannica*

Wenzel - Mapping and Measuring in the Caribbean



Male: Kevin, Nicholas, Christopher, squares, Mark, Brian, Paul, Holden, Carter, Mason, Sophie, Shelly, Curtis, David, Quick, Joseph, Brinkley, Lauren, Bev, Benjamin, Sophie, Katherine, Clark
Photo Credit: Justice Sustained

Map allow us to negotiate public, to become
private, to explore the familiar, to dominate
the unknown. In so doing they
present themselves as objective depictions
of the world. But maps are not objective;
they are ways of representing more than
they reveal; they are negotiations.

Maps are not maps.

They tell stories they claim territories;
they suggest situations. They reflect
the values, decisions, blind spots, and
ambitions of their makers.

Most maps created in Europe between
1600 and 1860 concerned what was known,
what was understood, what was described,
presented what was viewed as unadmitted,
emphasized what remained to be learned,
and what was considered irrelevant.
In all of these ways, maps ordered what was
unknown to early modern Europeans.

The Making History Public Class of
Spring, 2014 present maps from the
Beinecke Library that order the unknown
among them. Covering more than two
centuries, these maps show how
older knowledge sets the ordering implies of
them up.

Other maps, the perceived unknown
changed, and new ways of ordering them
did too. We can still recognize the desire
for world into familiar narratives way
during imperialism. By the mid-nineteenth
century, mapping gradients of difference
was the guiding principle.

Most other mapping traditions have
remained less prominent and less central to the
European era of cartographic ordering.
To many, mapping did not primarily
serve the purpose of ordering. And so
most of these maps were not unknown.

Nonetheless, the maps collected here
represent a tradition that has exerted a
significant influence on global mapping
conventions. The concept of accuracy,
the notion of a coordinate system, the
language of projection, the concepts of
longitude and latitude, the division of landmasses
into quadrilaterals, and the division of landmasses
into continents will all be immediately
recognizable. As the Wilkes expedition's
maps show, however, some of these
famous maps have remained a oral tradition
for later empires eager to claim the world
as they wish to see it.



Likewise, the landscape drawings capture the perceptions of George Sandel. The details that he draws to emphasize or downplay give insight into his perception of the relative importance of some of his journeys.



A historical map of Africa from 1882, showing major rivers, coastlines, and political boundaries. The map includes labels for the Nile, Niger, Congo, and Zambezi rivers, as well as various African kingdoms like Ashanti, Dahomey, and Benin. A compass rose is located in the bottom left corner.

The images and other content, come from a 2007 award-winning South African film of a Justine beam. See [Eduardo](#).

George Souther was the second and longest wife of Esther Souther, archdeacon of York for the Church of England. Souther's life was a continual search for status. Describing the culture of the Southern elite as well as the literature of Southern women in *Influence and Style*, Souther may also a poet and social theorist of Cleopatra. Her interests as both Souther and poet were influenced by the memory of her writing as did her emphasis on a refined Protestant family. Souther died in 1887 at the age of 80 in the Virginia Company and was a member of the council of state and the legislature of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The methods and results of "Smother" McGinnis' studies and observations would be well appreciated with pleasure and help if sent from time to time. Considerable testing, as I understand it, has already been done at Paris and San Ysidro. Smother does as the weather with something like 1000 hours of sun, the winter winds to travel as a steady framework and, as far as able to judge, comprehend the situation. His observations

of land-use regions is present throughout much of the island, with land use being closely aligned with methods of conserving the coastal areas as otherwise coastal damage occurs.

The field and stage from the beginning of *Hamlet's* speech is both typical for the time and notable for its allusiveness. Quite unusually the speech itself by *Hamlet* is expressed in present tense, and there is some reason to believe that it was originally so.

the *Archaeological Journal* for 1870, pp. 10-12, the "Antiquities of Chelmsford," and the *West Essex*, represented at great length, where Wilson's plan is also described in full, with numerous detail. This is likewise the case for the preceding histories of Chelmsford, The South and East of England, &c., &c. Numerous other works speak. Some of the preceding authorities are very much more comprehensive for the city. The *Archaeological Survey* appears to be an account of the Romans and the Saxons. That, however, is a chronological history, and not a topographical survey of the city. Chelmsford is described in detail in the *Topographical Survey* of Essex, which detail is not so minute as would be required to range the topography of the city.



Familiarizing: Cornelis de Bruyn's Russia



In this sketch of eighteenth century Moscow, the palace and church structures are degrees of magnitude larger than the surrounding city. Their sheer dominance in physical presence suggests a nation defined completely by its czar and patriarch. In de Bruyn's day, many western Europeans thought of Russia as a backwards, uncivilized land where the czar was the only man attempting to cure Russia of its barbarism. This sketch aligns with this view by heavily emphasizing the power and architectural accomplishments of the czar at the total expense of the nearly forgotten townsfolk.

Also the city is framed almost entirely by empty space; Moscow appears to be the only feature of the landscape for miles around. Combined with the general absence of human figures, this makes Russia seem an immense wasteland punctuated with only isolated bastions of human civilization, another common western European stereotype.

Image taken from French into Moscow, Persia, and Part of the East Indies, a travel account by Cornelis de Bruyn, a Dutch painter and traveller from the turn of the eighteenth century. Images are from engravings and sketches done by the author. Images were drawn in 1701, and published in 1737.

Often, the images brought back by famous travelers like Cornelis de Bruyn and published in their travel accounts would be the only exposure the average person would have to vast expanses of the globe. While these sketchy maps in the travel accounts may not have been the first images and drawings we'd encounter, they were instrumental in defining a space and shaping the reader's understanding of our world. However, these images would more often reflect the various authors' interpretations of that space rather than hard and fast objective fact, as can be seen in these three images. Here, the selected images display the cultural biases at play in the mind of the traveller Cornelis de Bruyn. These images and the larger travel narrative they come from helped familiarize the far off lands of Russia to citizens of the west. However, de Bruyn's Russia is heavily distorted by his own personal judgments and larger western stereotypes.

Mark Redden



This is one of a number of portraits of individual rural Russians de Bruyn met along his journey. He wrote with the rather hasty but informative style of the surrounding cultural observations by de Bruyn. While his hats may be immediately striking for its unusual proportions compared to modern hats, de Bruyn portrays him as not quite as culturally distant from western civilization as his gaze might suggest. The dignity of his pose, the strength of his features, and the calm composure of his expression are all markedly similar to traditional subjects of western portraiture. These conflicting messages serve to paint the picture of a generally "normal" man to western standards participating in an "odd" culture.



This sketch of a sledge drawn by reindeer is an example of de Bruyn's highlighting of "oddities" in Russian culture. De Bruyn notes in his text that the heads of the reindeer have been shaved so that their antlers become more of their features. Reindeer, despite having been domesticated for longer than horses, would not be familiar to western audiences, and so merit special attention as a curiosity. In both cases, de Bruyn uses these images both as a picture of Russian people and their practices and as a judgment of their relative cultural distance from western European standards. These images familiarize the country by offering visual examples of "authentic" Russian life, and yet also place Russia clearly outside of what the author believed to be cultured society.

Classifying: Mapping Russia's Ethnicities

Images taken from The Native Races of the Russian Empire, by Robert Latham and the accompanying map titled "The St. Petersburg Geographical Society. Robert Latham's text was published in 1851 and relies on his own study as well as the Petersburg map which was drawn in 1832."

In the 1830s, when this map and book were created, ethnography looked like an empirical version of anthroplogy, focused around statistics and labeling of cultures as a way of classifying and comparing the foreign ethnic groups in a region. In this way mapping and anthropology were related as ethnographers sought to catalog peoples in various countries. Ethnography grew out of the needs of European powers' interests to organize and understand their non-European subjects, including the people living there. Though many travel accounts had already recorded the various non-European ethnic groups across the globe by the time Latham and the St. Petersburg Geographical Society were working, the scientific nature of their empirical method of ethnography to evaluate foreign cultures. As an ethnographer and philologist, Robert Latham focused much of his ethnographical research in *The Native Races of the Russian Empire* on the racial origins and linguistics of the various ethnic communities in Russia. This map is different from earlier accounts of foreign peoples in that it stressed a more "scientific" approach to the study of origins rather than a descriptive approach, suggesting that the ethnographic community in the mid-nineteenth century viewed their work as progressive. Latham was not looking to mold his research to fit into the existing paradigm; therefore his exact theories should not necessarily be taken as the majority opinion. Nevertheless, his work and that of the St. Petersburg Geographical Society reflect a larger trend towards ethnography and, to an extent, phiology, as the most progressive forms of classification of people and places outside Europe in the mid-nineteenth century.

Latham's book



This map fits into the larger context of Europe's idea of classification and ordering as a primary means of defining, displaying, and presenting information, specifically about non-European cultures. Because the expansion of European groups into areas not previously marked in previous anthropological treatises, the goal of this map is similar to that of the anthropologists who studied the different communities of people living across the land which Russia had recently claimed as its empire. The St. Petersburg Geographical Society catalogued using colors, numbers, and naming. While the colored spaces on the map indicate ethnic populations, the white spaces on the map are interesting silences which promote the image of "the other" in the European mindset. If the colored areas on the map represent the "norm" then the white areas represent the "non-norm" people, which in this case are non-Russian. The white colored dichotomy is a typical world view of ethnicities in which Russia is the norm and the colored groups are "the other." Thus classifying and categorizing were a way to reinforce European concepts of cultural and imperial dominance.



Just as the map reduces ethnicity to a color, Robert Latham reduces ethnicity to three stocks of origin through language, culture, and migration. Both the map and accompanying text define ethnicity exclusively by origins. The fact that the Geographical Society and Robert Latham calculated different "amounts" of ethnic groups in their respective works demonstrates that their act of cataloging is arbitrary and is based on their fieldwork as Europeans. Despite the fact that this map exists and ethnic groups wanted to make information available via maps, the act of cataloging ethnic groups suggests a true drive to understand the world outside of Europe. However, the act of picking, choosing, labeling, and studying groups more so reveals the European position as a dominant, educated culture with the ability to determine what can be classified as whom.

Classifying

Nearing the end of the seventeenth century, Europe underwent a broad cultural and intellectual shift known as the Enlightenment. With this intellectual revolution came an ever-growing emphasis on human reason and individualism as cornerstones in the world. Throughout the eighteenth century, the intellectual framework established by Enlightenment thinkers substantially influenced advances in science, philosophy, and politics. As these priorities spread into scientific thought, they ushered in the scientific method, a set of scientific practices that promoted direct, repeatable observations and logically consistent deductions as the foundations of scientific thought.

Following Enlightenment principles, scientists and philosophers understood the natural world as being fundamentally comprehensible by the application of reason that is to say that, if applied properly, human reason could grasp the laws of the natural world. This perspective informed the scientific perspective expected of scientists to have when classifying the whole of the natural world. Enlightenment scientists believed that if they could observe the world around them and, using human reason, divide what they saw into proper categories, they could come to a deeper understanding of the most basic intricacies of the world. To that end, cartographers from post-Enlightenment Europe understood their purpose to be the collection of as much scientifically accurate data as possible.

Global exploration had opened Europe's eyes to the many different types of lands and peoples in the world, while colonialism required empires to manage new territories and populations. Cataloging, classifying, and classifying information became a project and scientific endeavor. Just as Alexander von Humboldt organized the flora and fauna of an established Spanish colony to gain information, Robert Latham and the St. Petersburg Geographical Society classified Russian ethnic groups to better manage and control territories. Though the lands of New Spain and Russia had been largely explored, the two scientists nonetheless saw in those regions important new information yet unknown to European scientists for them to recover.



Classifying: Alexander von Humboldt and the Mapping of New Spain

Images taken from Political Essay on the Kingdom of New Spain, a scientific and statistical survey of modern-day Mexico by Alexander von Humboldt, a Prussian scientist. Images are from drawings done by the author, drawn in 1804 and published French in 1811.

When Alexander von Humboldt, a Prussian naturalist widely considered one of the brightest scientific minds of his era, set off on a voyage to South America, the Spanish colony of New Spain (modern-day Mexico) was not high on his list of priorities. Upon witnessing the geographical and biological diversity in the region, he quickly rearranged his proposed journey of circumnavigation in favor of a comprehensive study of the social and geographic landscape of New Spain. The results of that labor, recorded in his *Political Essay on the Kingdom of New Spain*, comprise nearly 2000 pages of statistical analysis and some of the most comprehensive cartography in the Americas to date.

As a child of the Enlightenment, Humboldt projects into his science and cartography a strong belief in the need for a total understanding of the environment that he studies. As he explains in the personal narrative resulting from this journey, "it would hinder the advancement of the sciences to postulate general ideas by neglecting particular facts." To that end, the *Political Essay*, and his "Map of the Kingdom of New Spain" in particular, includes an astonishing breadth of information about a variety of significant aspects of colonial life. Because of Humboldt's understanding of the volume of information yet unknown about New Spain, he found himself driven to advance a scientific understanding of an important part of the Spanish Empire by observing and categorizing a vast quantity of data about life in the region.

In the "Map of New Spain" in particular, Humboldt reveals the deeply human priority of his scientific perspective. By including elements of the human landscape (cities, churches, and towns), the economic landscape (mines and military posts), and the scientific landscape (astronomical observations and mountain), Humboldt seeks to fully encompass the essence of New Spain, to understand the ways that people interact with their environment. Proceeding from the Enlightenment perspective that nature can be fully understood with the application of logic and human reason, Humboldt's attempt to map the unknown comes in the form of broad and far-reaching scientific calculation.

David Quack



This drawing of the Pico de Orizaba, the highest mountain in Mexico, demonstrates again the primacy that Humboldt's science gives to the human perspective. Just as with the cross-section that Humboldt compiles, Humboldt's depiction of this prominent geographical feature is presented from a human perspective, an individual looking at the mountain from a specific point in the forest. Instead of applying a disinterested objectivity to the mountain, Humboldt depicts the perspective of the mountain. Humboldt chooses to depict the mountain the way that he directly experiences it. This individual perspective highlights the importance that Humboldt's science grants to direct observation of the natural world, while simultaneously demonstrating that scientific classification and artistic expression are not mutually exclusive.



With this chart, Humboldt demonstrates a combination of cartographic advancement and science emerging from the human perspective. To assemble this cross section, he recorded measurements of barometric pressure on his paths from one city to the next, culminating in comprehensive and accurate charts of the elevations of various locations and landmarks along the way. By centering the analysis on the roads from one major city to the next, rather than a series of isolated locations, this highlights the fundamental influence of the human perspective in shaping and ordering scientific knowledge. Though charts of this nature had previously been attempted, they had never been compiled using the scientific instruments that Humboldt used. This style of data organization would be widely imitated by future cartographers, and is still in use even today.

Possessing: Legitimizing New Spain

These images all come from The General History of the Vast Continent and Islands of America, Commonly call'd the West-Indies, from the First Discovery thereof; with the Best Accounts the People could give of their Antiquities by *Antonio de Herrera y Tordesillas* and translated into English by Capt. John Stevens in 1725.

Herrera y Tordesillas was the royal chronicler of Spain and is famous for his historical account of the Spanish conquest of the Americas in what is commonly referred to as *The Décadas*. These maps and engravings appear in John Stevens' translation of this work and act as reference tools for the reader. The "New Map of North and South America" is used to show much of the region that is described in *The General History of the Vast Continent and Islands of America*. The "Hydrographical Draught of Mexico as it Lies in its Lakes" is a map of the Aztec capital of Mexico Tenochtitlan. This particular map originates from a Spanish traveler named Carlos de Sigüenza Góngora who reportedly copied it from a Native American mapmaker.

In writing a historical account of this crucial era in Spain's history, one of Herrera y Tordesillas' tasks was to justify the conquest of an entire population of people in which Spain claimed possession of all of Mexico and Central America. One way of justifying their actions was by portraying the native people as savages or even subhuman creatures. Perhaps the most effective way of doing this was by describing the religious practices of the native people. The polytheistic worship of multiple gods and the practices of human sacrifice were extremely disturbing for many of the Catholic Spanish explorers. The engraving of "Vitzilipuzli, the Principal Idol of the Mexicans" shows an example of this idol worship that Spaniards found so appalling. This idol would have been located in one of the great temples of Tenochtitlan. The engraving of "The Great Charnel House in ye City of Mexico" shows a display of human skulls from victims of the sacrificial rituals of the Mexica people. Images like these reinforced the Spanish descriptions of heathenism within the native religions. The idea that the native people were heathens was useful in justifying their conquest and solidifying their claims of possession because they could act in the name of civilizing and Christianizing the Native Americans.

The two maps were added to the translation of Herrera y Tordesillas' work more than a century after the original *Décadas* was first published. They were used as reference tools in order to assist readers in understanding the historical account of Spain's conquest of the New World. After they had already solidified and justified their possession, they were able to create these maps and include images of churches that signified the locations of towns and cities named after Spanish saints. It was clear that they claimed to control and possess this land.

Cóñor Morris



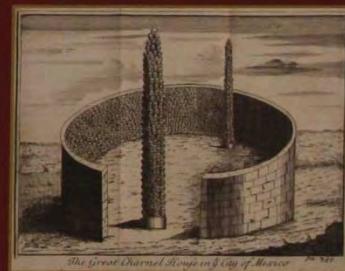
"A New Map of as much of North and South America as is particularly spoken of in this first Vol. of ye History of ye West Indies"



"An Hydrographical Draught of Mexico as it Lies in its Lakes"



"Vitzilipuzli, the Principal Idol of the Mexicans"



"The Great Charnel House in ye City of Mexico"

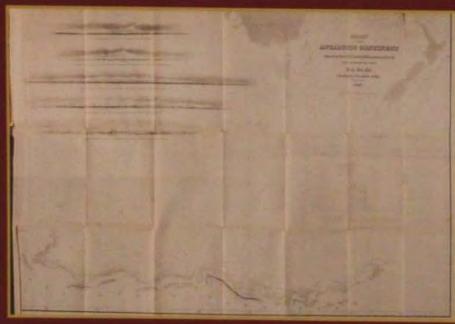
Possessing: The Wilkes Expedition



Map of the Fiji Islands from May of 1840. Wilkes and his men killed 80 Fijians on the island of Ovalau after negotiations between the natives broke down and two of Wilkes' men were killed while attempting to barter for food. Wilkes was attempting to make a U.S. whaling port on the island.



Map of the Oregon Territory from April of 1841. Note the extensive detail that went into the creation of this map and the cut away of the Columbia River. Also note the advice and warnings that Wilkes gives along the Columbia River.



Map of Antarctica from January of 1840. Note the various given water and air temperatures as well as the view of the coastline from two of the expedition's ships. At the time of the expedition in Antarctica Wilkes crossed paths with the French who were also exploring the continent. A stand off ensued and neither party wanted to leave the area and give claim to the particular location to the other country. Wilkes finally backed off and moved further down the coastline.

Maps from the Narrative of the United States Exploring Expeditions during the Years 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841, and 1842 during the Wilkes Expedition between 1838 and 1842 include a map of Antarctica circa January 1840, a map of Fiji Islands circa May 1840, a map of the Oregon Territory circa April of 1841.

In 1844, Charles Wilkes published a volume of travel accounts titled *Narrative of the United States Exploring Expeditions during the Years 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841, and 1842*. These travel accounts covered the entire United States Exploring Expedition between 1838 and 1842 which was led by the author of the travel accounts, Lieutenant Charles Wilkes. As the Lewis and Clark Expedition between 1804 and 1806 was significant in mapping the Louisiana Purchase and the Pacific Northwest, the U.S. Exploring Expedition (or "The Wilkes Expedition," as it has been called) that occurred thirty-five years after Lewis and Clark was equally monumental as it was the first government-funded circumnavigation by the United States. Wilkes was told by the government that he was to conduct an expedition "for the purpose of exploring and surveying the Southern Ocean as well to determine the existence of all doubtful islands and shoals, as to discover, and accurately fix, the position of those which [lay] in or near the track of our vessels in that quarter, and might have escaped the observation of scientific navigators."

Some forms of possession occurred before the mapping of possessed lands. Spaniards did not map Mexico until roughly one hundred years after the supposed military "conquest." But the maps for the Wilkes Expedition reveal a different approach. In this case, a map publication itself made the claim of possession. Though the Wilkes expedition mapped the Islands of Fiji, the continent of Antarctica, and the Oregon Territory, only the last was a U.S. possession. And yet the travel accounts and the mapping of Antarctica and Fiji claim otherwise. In the travel accounts, Wilkes mentions that his crew was easily able to overpower and overwhelm the indigenous people of Fiji when a battle ensued and only two crew members were lost while eighty Fijians were killed. And while no country owns Antarctica, some countries have made territorial claims recognized by other nations. Unfortunately the United States was not one of those countries originally when they landed in the same area of Antarctica that was previously explored by the British in connection with their then territory of Australia. Upon arrival in Antarctica, Wilkes claimed and renamed the British territorial claim "Wilkesland." As the Wilkes Expedition reveals, possession can occur both before or after the actual mapping of an area. In some cases, possession can be not an action but a claim made on paper.

Joseph Busche

Extrapolating: Herman Moll, Enlightenment Geographer



"Carolina" appears in the third edition of Thomas Salter's 1739 publication *Modern History, or the Present State of all Nations*, but it was probably drawn in the 1720s. Herman Moll, the cartographer responsible for it, died in 1732.

Working as a printer, engraver, and geographer in London, Herman Moll made the acquaintance of some of the leading thinkers of the English Enlightenment, including John Locke, Robert Hooke, and Jonathan Swift. The Dutchman's contemporaries valued his works for both their accuracy and their aesthetics. Moll must have admired their work as well, for he adopted an attitude characteristic of the Enlightenment in his mapmaking—an attitude that is particularly conspicuous in the extrapolated features of "Carolina."

The traditional historiography of the Enlightenment has stressed the intellectual optimism of the period. Two recurring traits in Moll's works suggest that he, like Locke, Hooke, and Swift, subscribed to a progressive notion of human knowledge and power: an emphasis on the rightful British possession of the region depicted and an idealized, resource-oriented view of nature. "Carolina" exhibits both features. But it is Moll's willingness to extrapolate from imagination, amplified in those regions of the Carolinas where topography Europeans were yet to chart in detail, that offers the clearest link between his work and the optimism of the Enlightenment.

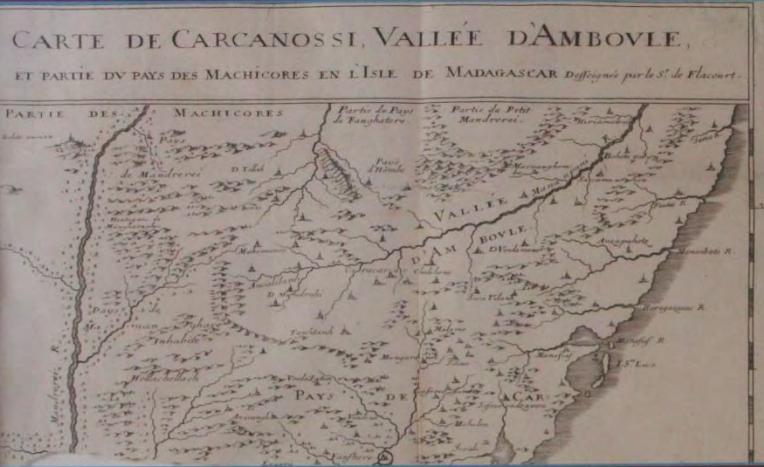
Although few Englishmen ventured as far west as the Appalachian Mountains before the late eighteenth century, Moll confidently arranges them in neat rows and columns so as to provide a natural basis for the division of British and "Cherokee" settlements. The Carolinas' rivers, according to Moll, make uniform heads as they carry the European explorer deeper into the continent; even their tributaries seem to be conveniently arranged to offer clean water and ease of transportation to every region on the map. This apparent cartographic optimism mirrors similar Enlightenment attitudes in politics, science, and literature.

Represented by their names and a single, repeated, fort-shaped stamp, the English coastal settlements signify a form of extrapolation of their own kind: the overemphasis of urban density. Moll's cartographic confidence seems to have been so strong as to have given him license to extrapolate in even those regions inhabited by, and thus well-known to the English. Again, the Enlightenment's conceptual influence on Moll comes across in his extrapolation in "Carolina." —Peter Haskin

Extrapolation

Cartographic extrapolation is the visual representation of assumed or imagined physical features of the earth and is pervasive in the history of Early Modern cartography. lacking precise information about the spatial relationships of geographical features in a given piece of land, the cartographer often extrapolates from the information he does have to fill in the voids of what he does not know. A classic example of this phenomenon in early European maps of North America is the representation of California as an island. Given that the Pacific Ocean lies to the west and separates the California from Mexico to the east, it seemed reasonable to conclude that the western coastline continued northwards and treated California as an island from mainland America. While this particular form of extrapolation does not appear on the map shown here, they do exhibit other forms of the technique—especially in these depictions of mountains, rivers, and heights and depths.

Extrapolating: Uniformity of Heights and Depths in Flacourt's Madagascar



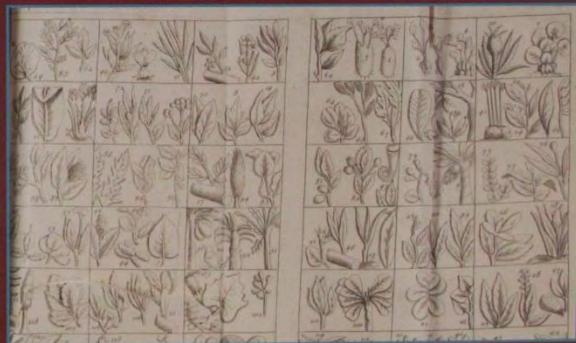
Map taken from *La Historie de la Grande Isle Madagascar*, a travel account by Eustache Flacourt. The map is a sketch created by the author, drawn between 1646 and 1654 and published in 1658 in Paris.

In 1642 the French East India Company was granted a charter to establish a colony on the Southeast corner of Madagascar. After six unsuccessful years in establishing a prosperous trading outpost in this new French colony of Fort Dauphin, Eustache Flacourt was appointed as new governor of the colony. His original mission was to establish a trading network with the local Malagasy population, but lack of cooperation from the locals and inadequate support of the colony from France caused Flacourt to abandon this mission. He turned instead to documenting and mapping the island around him.

Flacourt published *La Historie de la Grande Isle Madagascar* in 1658, a 354-page work that gave the first European in-depth account of Madagascar. Included in *La Historie* are seven maps of the island and nine sketches of the local Malagasy people and the distinct plant and animal life in Madagascar.

Here, Flacourt maps this section of current Southeast Madagascar using extrapolation. The mountains that Flacourt plots are particularly uniform in height—this is not a coincidence, but showcases one idea of cartographic extrapolation in heights and depths. With little accurate information of the true topography of this region, Flacourt replaced this knowledge gap with an invented and uniform topography. Flacourt populates this map with mountains, each of nearly equal height and shape. When compared to accurate topographical depictions, this method of height and depth extrapolation seems senseless. This extrapolation, however, allowed Flacourt to create a sense of order and familiarity with a completely foreign and distant land.

Marko Kruse



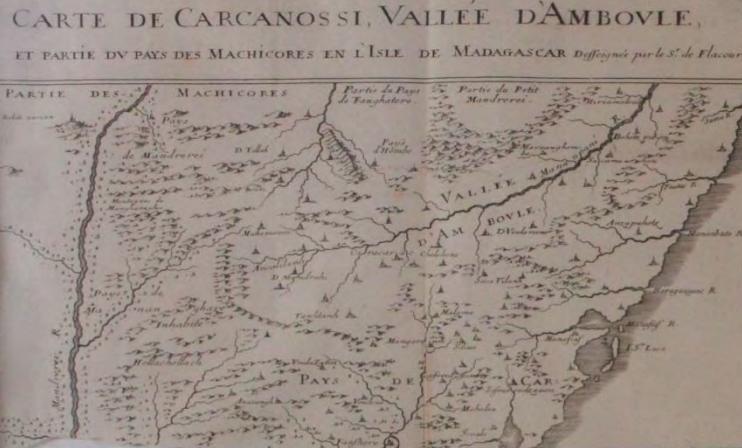
Presented in these two images are Flacourt's anatomical treatment of the local Madagascar plant and animal life. Shown here are 30 of the 140 plant representations included in *La Historie* and 12 of the 18 animal representations. The *Acyathus Madagascariensis*, plant number 13, was one of the first carnivorous plants to be documented by a European. Flacourt also documented several animal species never before seen by Europeans.

The detail and comprehensiveness of these sketches demonstrate how Flacourt was able to capture an accurate representation of Madagascar's local plant and animal life. The lack of extrapolation in these sketches contrast with the use of such in his maps.



Prof. Sylvia Sellers-Garcia and Ben Shapiro class of '16

Extrapolating: Uniformity of Heights and Depths in Flacourt's Madagascar



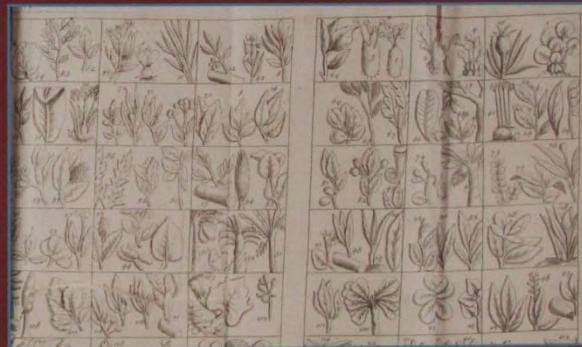
Map taken from *La Historic de la Grande Isle Madagascar*, a travel account by Etienne Flacourt. The map is a sketch created by the author, drawn between 1636 and 1651 and published in 1658 in Paris.

In 1642 the French East India Company was granted a charter to establish a colony on the Southeast corner of Madagascar. After six unsuccessful years in establishing a prosperous trading outpost in this new French colony of Fort Dauphin, Etienne Flacourt was appointed as new governor of the colony. His original mission was to establish a trading network with the local Malagasy population, but lack of cooperation from the locals and inadequate support of the colony from France caused Flacourt to abandon this mission. He turned instead to documenting and mapping the island around him.

Flacourt published *La Historic de la Grande Isle Madagascar* in 1658, a 354-page work that gave the first European in-depth account of Madagascar. Included in *La Historic* are seven maps of the island and nine sketches of the local Malagasy people and the distinct plant and animal life in Madagascar.

Here, Flacourt maps this section of current Southeast Madagascar using extrapolation. The mountains that Flacourt plots are particularly uniform in height—this is not a coincidence, but showcases our idea of cartographic extrapolation in heights and depths. With little accurate information of the true topography of this region, Flacourt replaced this knowledge gap with an invented and uniform topography. Flacourt populates this map with mountains, each of nearly equal height and shape. When compared to accurate topographical depictions, this method of height and depth extrapolation seems senseless. This extrapolation, however, allowed Flacourt to create a sense of order and familiarity with a completely foreign and distant land.

Mirko Kruse



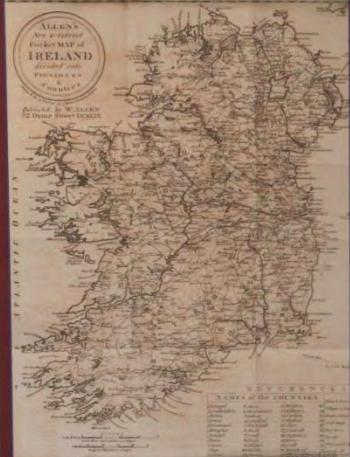
Presented in these two images are Flacourt's anatomical treatment of the local Madagascar plant and animal life. Shown here are 20 of the 140 plant representations included in *La Historic* and 12 of the 18 animal representations. The *Aeonytes Madagascarensis*, plant number 13, was one of the first carnivorous plants to be documented by a European. Flacourt also documented several animal species never before seen by Europeans.

The detail and comprehensiveness of these sketches demonstrate how Flacourt was able to capture an accurate representation of Madagascar's local plant and animal life. The lack of extrapolation in these sketches contrast with the use of such in his maps.



Kathy Clark, class of '15

Making Accurate Creating Certainty During Turbulent Times



These images were taken from John Cuming's book, *The Traveller's New Guide Through Ireland*. It was published in Dublin in 1815. Images are from engravings and sketches done by J. Taylor for *The Traveller's New Guide Through Ireland*. It was originally created to provide travellers to Ireland with a correct guide of the country, but its scope was expanded as an effort to enlighten the work and to make it available to businessmen and local people.

The Traveller's New Guide Through Ireland was published in 1815 when Ireland was still under the control of England and was only a mere 15 years after the Act of Union from 1801 was signed and 17 years after the rebellion of 1798. This was a particularly important time in the history of these two regions because the Irish rebellion had been largely suppressed and represented a larger French threat to the British Empire.

This map is specifically noted as "new and correct" regarding the roads in Ireland. Roads are important militarily because they provide access from the coastal regions to the interior regions of the island and between the villages. Some of the roads depicted were even constructed particularly for military use in order to provide a means of communication and shelter. It was strategically important to have accurate maps to know the best way to conduct troops, where resources were, and through what terrain the roads passed. Maps like this one were useful if a general wanted to travel through friendly or hostile areas and if the roads were near any resources. Whether or not troops had access to resources or were exposed to politically friendly residents had the potential to dictate victory or defeat and so accurate maps were essential militarily.

Other instances of the concern over accuracy can be seen in the precision with which measurements are taken of the road distances and the exact geographic location of the island. *The Traveller's New Guide Through Ireland* also carefully documents when and where local fairs and markets took place. This scrupulous cataloguing of such events further demonstrates the role that accuracy occupied in cartography.

"Allen's New and Correct Pocket Map of Ireland" and the charts of local fairs and markets contained in *The New Traveller's Guide* exemplify some instances of the importance of maps during military and political uncertainty and transition. The concern with accuracy also reflects the political concerns of the era in which they are made.

Katherine Clark

Table of Fairs held in the County of Dublin each month annually.		
Place where held.	Date.	Days.
Tallagh	1st March	Cattle
Dunleath	1st March	Horses
Carrickmines 2 days	14 April	Cattle
Smyth's Cross	1st May	Horses
Ballymote	5 May	Cattle
Lusk	5 May	Cattle
Bray	5 May	Cattle
Carlow	5 May	Cattle
Newcastle	5 May	Cattle
St. Stephen's Green	5 May	Cattle
Rathfarnham	5 May	Cattle
Whitefriars	5 May	Cattle
Blackrock	5 May	Cattle
St. George's	5 May	Cattle
St. Patrick's	5 May	Cattle
St. Werburgh's	5 May	Cattle
St. Mary's	5 May	Cattle
St. John's	5 May	Cattle
St. Paul's	5 May	Cattle
St. Peter's	5 May	Cattle
St. Michael's	5 May	Cattle
St. Anne's	5 May	Cattle
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SUITE

EXIT

10



Prof. Sylvia Sellers-Garcia, Christian Dupont, Head of Burns Library,
and Kevin Kenny, chair of the History Dept.



Tom Wall, University Librarian, Prof. Ginny Reinburg and Prof. Lynn Johnson, both of the History Dept.



MA

S30



Tom Wall, University Librarian and Justine Sundaram of Burns Library

