

the standard basemap for the WRAF, it was manually resized. Title, scale and legend were added to the map to complete the graphic (FIGURE 10).

Conclusion:

While MAPublisher did not directly affect the final look of the published maps in the atlas, it proved to be invaluable in converting the large quantities of data received for the preparation of maps into a useable form. The final maps are primarily the result of cartographic design decisions and the functions of the graphics software, but MAPublisher contributed significantly in several ways. First, the final printed maps are much more accurate in the geographic location of features due to the use of detailed GIS data. Second, the ability to take data sets from multiple sources and re-project them to a common projection allows the cartographer to combine layers and create custom maps. Finally, the time and cost savings from using this alternative method were essential to the completion of the project in a timely manner. In many instances, the alternative would have been to take printed output from the GIS, manually trace the line work in a more generalized form, scan the image, and retrace the line work in Free-hand.

The utilization of MAPublisher for this project and the techniques that were developed that led to the production of final printed color maps has enhanced the ability of FREAC cartographers to produce high-quality maps for publication that are more accurate and more cost effective. More information about MAPublisher can be found on the website: <http://www.avenza.com>.

Note: Full screen versions of the graphics can be found at <http://128.186.177.25/article.html>

map library bulletin board

The Louisiana State University Cartographic Information Center

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The Louisiana State University Cartographic Information Center (CIC) is a significant research resource in the Gulf South region. The Center's collection containing over 280,000 maps and 81,000 aerial photographs makes it the largest map collection in Louisiana and ranks it among the larger academic map libraries in the United States. In addition to the many maps and aerial photographs, the collection includes several regionally unique cartographic resources which are available to the University community, state and local agencies, business and private patrons, as well as patrons from around the world.

The Cartographic Information Center is funded and staffed by the Department of Geography & Anthropology and is administratively and physically separate from the LSU Libraries. The CIC collection is comprised of materials in two categories distinguished by ownership. The majority of the material in the collection was acquired by LSU geoscience departments and is now owned by the Department of Geography & Anthropology. Additionally, the CIC houses materials deposited by the Army Mapping Service and the Federal Depository Library Program.

Although the Cartographic Information Center dates its founding to 1960, the collection is the product of

both a broad scope of current scholarship and the rich seventy-year history of geoscience research at LSU. The Department of Geography & Anthropology collection reflects the department's teaching and research focus by concentrating on acquiring maps depicting historical and current Louisiana, the Gulf South, Latin America (with particular emphasis on Mexico), East Asia, and Europe. The specific research subjects supported by the collection include historical, cultural, economic and physical geography, anthropology, coastal and fluvial geomorphology, and geology. The regionally unique materials in the Department collection include the largest collection of original Louisiana Sanborn Fire Insurance maps outside of Washington, DC, the most complete set of historic U.S. Coast & Geodetic Survey hydrographic and topographic charts of the Louisiana Gulf Coast housed in the region, copies of historic maps depicting Louisiana, and historic aerial photographs of Louisiana dating from the 1930s to the 1980s.

Among the unique materials covering areas outside of Louisiana is a nearly complete set of original U.S. Geological Survey topographic quadrangle maps printed before 1940. In addition to maps of the United States, the scope of geoscience research at LSU over the past seventy years has brought materials depicting areas outside of the U.S. to the CIC. One example is a collection of over 3000 large scale (1:50,000) topographic maps of Mexico which provides over 96% coverage of the country. In addition to cartographic materials, the CIC houses the Dr. Robert C. West Latin American photograph collection containing over 6,000 black & white photographs and the Dr. Robert C. West Slide Collection of over 10,000 slides from around the world.

Complementing the material amassed by the geoscience departments are the Army Mapping Service depository material from the

1950s and 1960s and the current Government Printing Office Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). The current FDPL material is located in the CIC as provided in the Separate Housing Agreement with the Regional Depository Library located in the LSU main library. The combination of the Army Mapping Service maps and the current FDLP arrivals provides world wide medium scale topographic map coverage as well as small to large scale map coverage of the United States.

The Cartographic Information Center operates as a closed-stacks library. The staff consists of one full time professional assisted by a 1 Full Time Equivalent student staff who retrieve materials in response to patron requests. In calendar year 1997 the staff served 723 walk-in patrons who requested the retrieval of a total of 1120 maps and 658 aerial photographs. Other patron services include locating and recommending digital data sources, geographic names research, and suggesting map vendors for private purchases. These service requests are received from walk-in patrons as well as via telephone, fax, mail, and e-mail.

In addition to providing daily patron service, the Cartographic Information Center staff is working to overcome problems common to many map libraries such as inadequate space, the need for retrospective cataloging, and preservation. As with other map libraries, the most pressing problem is inadequate space. The recently implemented weeding program designed to remove duplicate out-of-scope materials has barely kept pace with normal acquisitions. Naturally, once the weeding is completed, normal acquisitions will soon fill the recently available space. Additionally, the acquisition of several large research collections is pending until additional space is available. It is hoped that additional space will be acquired in the next three years.

In general, access to collection materials is primarily provided through index maps for series, while other local finding aides are consulted for individual maps. In addition, the FDLP materials are piece-level cataloged in the LSU Libraries LOLA online catalog available at <http://www.lib.lsu.edu/databases/lola.html>. The Department of Geography & Anthropology collection materials are classified and filed using a locally developed system. An effort is underway to create electronic databases to improve access to the departmental material. Completed databases are available locally for the Dr. Robert C. West Latin American Photograph Collection, as well as for the map holdings depicting Louisiana, Mexico, and the West Indies. The work on databases for the Dr. Robert C. West Slide Collection, and for maps depicting the United States is underway. The pre-1940 U.S. Geological Survey topographic quadrangle map indexes were completed in 1997.

Because the material in the Department of Geography & Anthropology collection results from the long history of LSU geoscience teaching and research, these materials are often old, fragile, and require preservation. In the past, original maps as well as copies of historic maps were acquired. As a result, map materials in the collection range from acetate-based film negatives to fragile newsprint. Additionally, the bulk of the collection is housed in acidic containers. A recently completed major preservation project involved the transfer of historic U.S. Coast & Geodetic Survey chart images from decomposing acetate film negatives to stable mylar. Currently, an ongoing preservation effort is underway to prevent daily wear on fragile maps by removing the maps from the general collection, rehousing them in pH-buffered containers, and placing them in less trafficked drawers.

In addition to the daily map library duties of patron service and processing acquisitions, and the long term rehousing, retrospective cataloging, and preservation efforts, the CIC staff is promoting awareness of the Cartographic Information Center's collection through tours, class presentations, and the World Wide Web. The Center's web site, www.cadgis.lsu.edu/cic/, was established in November 1995 to provide an overview of the holdings. Although the majority of the CIC holdings are not in an online catalog, the web site does list the CIC's significant special collections and map series. When the map database for a specific area is completed, a paragraph describing the map holdings is added to the web site. In addition to the descriptive paragraphs and map series listings, a complete list of Louisiana historic aerial photographic coverage by parish and year is provided. A companion list of the CIC's holdings of aerial photomosaics by county and year depicting states other than Louisiana is also available. Finally, in order to illustrate the aerial photograph collection's scope, six representative aerial photos taken of the LSU campus from the 1930s to the 1980s are on the web site.

The Cartographic Information Center is located in room 313 Howe-Russell Geoscience Complex, LSU Campus, Baton Rouge, LA 70803 and is open to the public from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays except University holidays.

The University of Iowa's Map Collection

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