Barrington Atlas of the Greek and Roman World: the Cartographic Fundamentals in Retrospect

Figure 1. Part of Map 40 (right), showing the Po delta in antiquity and the corresponding part of TPC F-2B (left) on which the map is based. As Map 40 clearly illustrates, the Barrington Atlas uses two lineweights to distinguish major roads from minor ones: solid linework signifies that the course of the road is known for certain in this location; where linework is dashed, by contrast, it can only be traced approximately. The checkerboard patterns denote centuriated areas—land surveyed, divided and assigned by the Roman authorities.
Figure 4. The locator outline map in the published atlas, 2000. While the framework of the initial layout is maintained throughout, after 1990 many part-maps and insets become better integrated (such as 26a and b, and the insets between 30 and 31, in Fig. 2), and excessive overlaps eliminated (in eastern Asia Minor, for example). More overviews at 1:5,000,000 are added, and eventually coverage at 1:1,000,000 is extended so that the map planned from the outset to show Greek settlement in Bactria (85 in Fig. 2, 94 in Fig. 3) no longer remains an isolated one at this scale.
Figure 5. In order to extend coverage as far as ancient Cerne (off the coast of West Africa) and the Fortunate Islands, no more than an inset was designed initially, for placement in the lower-left desert area of Map 1. But despite its economy, such an arrangement – with an extensive expanse of open water seemingly deep inside the Sahara, as shown here – was felt to create too incongruous an impression. Instead, a separate Map 1a (also at 1:5,000,000) was created.
Figure 6. Part of Map 5: India, first in an early draft (left) incorporating only the physical elevation offered by the GNC T2 base sheet, and then as published in 2000 (right) incorporating custom-designed digital elevation modeling by Donnelley (with use of GTOPO30, as described in Barrington Atlas, xcvii) which was adopted for all twelve maps at the 1:5,000,000 scale.
Figure 7. Part of the specimen map at 1:500,000 as printed in 1990 (a revised version of which appears in the published atlas as 52 Byzantium). The colors developed to differentiate single-period features stood out distinctively. Note that physical elevations are enhanced by incorporation of the TPC series shaded relief element. However, its incorporation in the next map at this scale to go into production (54 Epirus-Acarnania) proved far less satisfactory, because in this more mountainous region it overwhelmed the elevation tints and single-period colors. Consequently, after much fruitless experimentation, the decision was taken to drop the use of the shaded relief element throughout.