goals and knew what it took to reach them. His great desire was
to build a reputation “among
the social and intellectual elite,
including technically adept men
of science” (p. 8). His advice to
a colleague was to publish small
works often to keep one’s name
in the public eye. This isn’t bad
advice for junior faculty today.

This is a scholarly book, not de-
dsigned for the casual reader. There
are copious footnotes on every
page, usually over 100 per chapter
(one reaches 192). There are 22
pages of bibliography and a 16-
page index. The author, Mary Ter-
rall, clearly is well-versed not only
in her subject, Maupertuis, but
also in the time and the science of
the time. She is totally at home in
the period and knowledgeable of
the science, scientists, and scient-
tific disputes. The book is thor-
oughly researched. Maupertuis’s
works were in French as were the
manuscript sources (correspon-
dence and some of Maupertuis’s
unpublished manuscripts). Profes-
sor Terrall did all of the transla-
tions herself rather than rely on
an outside translator so these are
not filtered through another’s
views. Often the original French
is provided in the footnotes.

The author assumes familiarity
with the period of the Enlighten-
ment and the people and places.
A reader who is not so conver-
sant with the time, may find
him/herself wishing for a cast
of characters at the front of the
book as in 1930s mystery novels.
Professor Terrell’s familiarity with
the period has led to some odd
omissions; latitude and longitude
are carefully explained to the
reader, but some terms unfamiliar
to a modern reader, e.g. fluxions,
are not. This is not a fast read or
a fast-paced story focusing on one
event or theory. Seeing the title,
one might assume that the book
is concerned primarily with the
story of the Lapland expedition,
a book along the lines of Dava
Sobel’s highly popular Longitude.
Anyone expecting that will be
disappointed, but one who is
looking for a thorough, scholarly
treatment of science and society
in the eighteenth century will be
pleased.

Cataloging Sheet Maps, the
Basics
By Paige G. Andrew
New York: The Haworth
Information Press, 2003
0-7890-1483-1, paperback
$24.95, xv, 240 pp., tables,
illustrations, appendix, bibli-
ography, index.

Reviewed by Christopher H. Mixon
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If I have learned anything from
my experience as an Army Re-
serve officer, it is this: You do not
have to know everything—just
where to find the answers. Now,
I am not by any means an experi-
cenced cataloger. I have no formal
training to speak of. However, I
have been learning by doing in
the company of some very fine
experts for over three years now.
Some of my teachers, in addition
to the author, are acknowledged
in this book. I also owe a great
deal to bosses and coworkers who
show me the ropes every day. I re-
alize that this review is about the
book and not about me, but I feel
it is important to point out a bit
of my background because I think
it will help to emphasize how
vital this book is to those learning
to catalog maps. In the forward,
Alice C. Hudson points out that
increasingly map catalogers and
curators are not map specialists,
that the job of map cataloging has
been placed upon many who are
unfamiliar with the intricacies of
maps and map making. While this
is certainly true, and a key audi-
ence for this book, my situation is
quite different. Having received
a geology degree and gone on to
study cartography in graduate
school, I have always dealt with
maps. Even as a child I was fas-
cinated by maps and became the
family navigator while on vaca-
tion. As a map cataloger/curator,
I do not know which is more diffi-
cult: having a good understanding
of maps but no cataloging experi-
ence or vice versa. For the past
three years, I have made use of
the various sources on cataloging:
Anglo-American Cataloging Rules,
Second Ed., Cartographic Materi-
als, MARC 21 Concise Format for
Bibliographic Data, to name a few.
These essential tools have been
helpful yet often confusing. Cata-
loging Sheet Maps, the Basics brings
the myriad of cataloging resources
into focus and points directly to
the particular manuals and rules
that pertain to specific tasks in
properly describing a map.

Cataloging Sheet Maps, the Basics
consists of five sections, each with
clear illustrations and, where
necessary, multiple examples of
various cataloging situations. The
first section, “In the Beginning,”
consists of a bit of background
into why basic map cataloging is
so important as more and more
libraries are making the decision
to bring their maps up to the level
of the rest of their collections
where cataloging is concerned. It
asks, “What is a map?” And “Why
bother to catalog maps?” These
are two very basic questions but
certainly worth asking. A catalog-
er who is new to maps might do
better knowing what is considered
a map and may just be surprised
by the answer. Knowing and
understanding the parts that go
into a map is the key to describing
them. As for the second question,
I believe that anyone would agree
that anything worth having in a
library collection is worth describing for their patrons. In the second chapter of the first section, the author jumps right into the nuts and bolts of map cataloging. He begins with some advice on methodology and quickly points out that each cataloger has to develop his or her own style. Keep in mind, however, that his advice comes from many years of experience and dedication to the craft, which has helped shape some of the rules we use currently.

The third chapter describes the various publications that a map cataloger needs to have at his/her disposal in order to adequately describe cartographic materials. This list of resources is quite extensive but is broken down into basic, essential, and helpful tools. Some are strictly electronic sources, some strictly paper, and some are both. The basic tools are those that should be found in any cataloger’s arsenal whether they deal with maps or not, such as Anglo-American Cataloging Rules, Second, Ed. (AACR2R). The essential tools are those that every map cataloger should have at hand such as Cartographic Materials: A Manual of Interpretation for AACR2R, and a measuring device with centimeters on it. The helpful tools include articles published on map cataloging, helpful websites such as Western Association of Map Librarians “Map Librarians Toolbox” and many others. Section One finishes with the chief source of information (the map and/or its container) and prescribed sources of information as outlined in AACR2R that one can use to derive the content that will go into the various parts of the bibliographic record.

Section two, “Coded Fields,” describes the fixed fields and the variable fields in the bibliographic record, describing first those fixed fields that are specific to cartographic works and then those fixed fields that are general. The variable fields are treated in the same manner but in much greater detail—naturally since this includes the 007 or physical description field, which is mandatory and must relate consistently with the physical description or 300 field and any notes that relate to physical description. If a particular field is repeatable and/or mandatory and under what conditions is also spelled out here.

Section Three, “Description of the Map,” is by far the largest and with obvious reason. After all this is what it’s all about—describing the map. It begins with a chapter on Main Entry and Statement of Responsibility. Main entry under personal author versus corporate body and the issues one encounters when dealing with maps can be sticky for a cataloger accustomed to working with monograph titles. This section offers explanations of the rules involved and lists terms one might find on the map to aid in making informed decisions. The next chapter under “Description of the Map” concerns entry of a title in the record. This may seem like an easy task and often is; however, as the author points out, there are many situations where the title is not immediately obvious. Many maps will often have more than one title which may pertain to the same main map or two titles for two separate but equally important maps on one sheet. Sometimes maps bear no title at all. There is information here for dealing with just about every situation regarding titles. Next is a chapter on edition, which describes the importance of a map’s edition in a description due to a map’s graphic nature and how small changes in a map from one edition to the next could have a marked impact. The next chapter concerns the mathematical data area, which makes me thankful that I have a cartographic background. To many catalogers starting out with maps, this can be like learning a new language. This will become easier with exposure and experience, as the author points out. Much of this chapter is a bit of a lesson in basic map reading and discusses concepts related to map scale, projection, and map coordinates. Map scale and how it is depicted on a map, concepts of large scale versus small scale, and how to correctly enter this information in the record are discussed at length. I have seen professors of Geography become confused about scale so you can imagine how this subject can scramble a new map cataloger’s grey matter. Using clear language and illustration, the author does an excellent job of describing scale and how it is to be depicted in the map record. Projection, while a potentially difficult concept to grasp, is not discussed in great detail primarily because it is not necessary to fully understand the idea in order to place it in the record. Recording the map’s coordinates is not as simple, however, and although optional, the author urges its use whenever possible as this allows for mathematical access to maps contained within the stated coordinates. This chapter carefully outlines the process of recording coordinates and even extrapolating coordinates where the mapped area extends outside of the printed coordinates. A boxed section in this chapter gives a quick look at rules of thumb and provides situational examples for recording coordinates. Publication information is discussed in the next chapter. This is information that is not always evident on many maps. Even dates can be nonexistent or encrypted on some road maps. Publication date versus date of situation is discussed here also. Next is an extensive chapter covering the physical description area or 300 field. For this area in the record, the author describes various ways that maps...
can be put together such as map sets, map series, a map on multiple sheets, and how they should be dealt with. In this section the descriptions start with the simplest situation and end with the most complex situation for the physical description. The chapter then continues with how to record a color versus monochromatic map and how to deal with two sided maps and the application of recto and verso. Finally the chapter discusses measuring the map and how, where, and when it is appropriate to measure the map and/or its container. This is where that tape measure with centimeters is put to good use. Section three concludes with a chapter devoted to including notes in the record. This chapter contains a list of essential notes and additional information notes pertaining to cartographic materials. There are examples listed categorically dealing with map description at the end of the chapter.

Section four, “Other Access Points,” deals with other items in the record to assist the searcher in finding the right map. Beginning with classification using the Library of Congress (LC) G-schedule, the author breaks down a typical LC call number into its component parts and discusses each thoroughly. LC is the only classification discussed in the book since it is the most widely used classification system for maps. Then the section moves on to a chapter on subject analysis for maps. This chapter refers heavily to specific resources related to subject analysis. This provides a close look at geographic subject headings and guidelines for indirect and direct geographic subdivision. The section ends with a chapter dealing with how and when to place added entries in the record and its justification.

The fifth and final section, “Historical Sheet Maps and Special Cases,” begins with the fact that individuals rather than corporations or agencies are more often given main entry and that it is important involved in statements of responsibility. Secondly, titles can be a special problem in historical maps and there are references to the rules on how to handle these. Scale conversion from historical units of measurement to today’s units based on miles is listed under mathematical data as is projection and conversion of coordinates. Like scale, coordinates require conversion to today’s system and this is explained here. The chapter discusses how to provide publisher, place and date of publication and how to deal with placenames that have changed since the map was made. There is some discussion about the rules that govern physical description that reflect how the map was produced. The chapter lists unique notes that are essential in describing historical maps such as the description of a watermark or information regarding donor or previous owner. Finally, subject subdivision and particular subject practices are covered, such as the use of current geographic names over historic names in the subject entry. The final chapter relates to special formats and situations, starting with specially mounted wall maps and how this affects physical description. Next, the author covers cataloging map series by touching on each element of the bibliographic record, including relevant coded fields, title, mathematical data, physical description area, etc. The next item discussed covers the handling of indexes, text, and other supplementary items relevant to the map itself. Then finally a reference to resources on how to handle various map reproductions completes the final chapter.

The appendix consists of practical exercises, with answers, where the reader is asked to supply ap-