drawing of a scale as a caterpillar that moved towards a map. The same dazzling wit comes out in David’s excursion into bovine cartography. He gave brilliant and hilarious lectures on the scientific controversy over the map-like, black-spots on Holstein cows and put it in practice by painting a map of Wisconsin directly on a cow. A photo of this “Wisconsin geography” graces my favorite coffee mug. I proudly bring the mug—and along with it the spirit of the remarkable man that conceived it—to every class I teach at Middlebury College.

P.S.: I should tell you that no animals were hurt in the creation of the map of Wisconsin. Rumor has it that the embellished cow became a celebrity among her fellow bovines. She is also credited with putting body art on the map.

In Memory of David Woodward, Scholar and Mentor

Ph.D. 1994, University of Wisconsin, Madison
Mapping the United States–Mexico Boundary, 1849–1857

Paula Rebert
Albuquerque, NM

I am deeply honored to write in memory of David Woodward, and I thank Cartographic Perspectives and Scott Freundschuh (and Matthew Edney for putting Scott in touch with me) for inviting me to contribute to this special issue on the accomplishments of Professors Arthur Robinson and David Woodward. I was privileged to meet Arthur Robinson when I was a student and he was a guest speaker in a graduate seminar in cartography taught by David Woodward. It was my great privilege to be a student of David Woodward’s. David was my Ph.D. adviser and my mentor, and above all, my model as a scholar.

In my memory, I am most likely to see David seated at his desk in his office, the setting for graduate student consultations. His office was in an angle of the fourth floor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s venerable Science Hall. An odd-shaped room, it had the feel of a garret in a medieval turret, especially with its metal staircase spiraling up to a balcony inside the office. It was a crowded room, filled with books in bookcases reaching from floor to ceiling (“I like books,” I recall David saying one time when I talked with him in his office, “I just like having them around me”) and piles of papers covering desk and shelves and filing cabinets. The balcony was filled with more books, a microforms reader, and boxes of papers and past projects. On shelves near his desk, in neat stacks, were reprints of articles he had written. In his office, surrounded by his library and archives of the history of cartography, David seemed most at home.

David’s intense interest in the history of cartography followed from his early experience as a cartographer. My own interest developed according to a similar pattern; as I began my PhD program in the history of cartography at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, after completing my MS in applied cartography and working as a cartographer at Northern Illinois
University, David’s own background as a cartographer was fundamental for me. One of David’s impressive characteristics as a scholar was his ability to appreciate the vastness of the history of cartography in its relationship to other human achievements and across diverse cultures and past civilizations, and yet never waver from his focus on cartography. Two of David’s papers that influenced me as a graduate student, and which I found especially pertinent, were “The Study of the History of Cartography: A Suggested Framework” (The American Cartographer 1 [1974]: 101-115) and “Why Cartography Needs Its History” (with J. B. Harley, The American Cartographer 16 [1989]: 5-15). The first paper offers an outline for research in the history of cartography that maintains the map itself as the center of attention. The second considers the importance of the history of cartography for the discipline of cartography, especially in the education of cartographers. I think that both of these papers continue to be valuable and important contributions.

Although David’s writings were important to me, he imparted ideals of scholarship mainly by example through his work on the History of Cartography Project. The Project, of course, was the plan to create a multivolume world history of cartography, as conceived and organized in the late 1970s-early 1980s by David and his colleague, the late J. B. Harley. An invaluable experience that he provided for me (and many others before and after me) was an appointment as a graduate assistant on the History of Cartography Project. My assistantship afforded daily contact with exemplary scholarship. It also offered an acquaintance with the spectrum of the scholarly publishing process, from research and writing to editing and production, all in the context of the high standards of The History of Cartography.

Almost immediately upon my arrival at the University of Wisconsin, I assisted in a Project move from cramped quarters to a new office on Science Hall’s fourth floor, where staff and students had desks and workspace. David was often to be found in the Project office, and was always its presiding presence. The History of Cartography Project became my graduate school home base. Project staff and students were all made to feel that they were part of David Woodward’s extended family. Gatherings with David and his wife Roz and sometimes their daughter Jenny and son Justin, at their home or at their summer cabin in the Wisconsin countryside, were special occasions. The break from Project industriousness that always came with the annual holiday party in the Project office was another special event—especially when we were joined by Brian Harley and friends from the Milwaukee office of the History of Cartography Project.

In addition to the example he set through the History of Cartography Project, David also presented a model of scholarship as a lecturer and public speaker. Unfailingly, his classroom lectures and public presentations were meticulously researched, well organized, and interestingly presented. Both as a student and when I heard him speak later, I found his talks inspirational. For David was, himself, truly inspired by the intellectual significance and the richness and beauty of the history of cartography.

I am left now with a feeling of profound loss and sorrow at David’s passing. The history of cartography will miss its great champion. David’s dedicated enthusiasm for the history of cartography and his ability to inspire enthusiasm in others are great losses for all the cartography community.