



cartographic perspectives

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Letter from the Editor

Dear Members of NACIS,

Welcome to *CP53*, the first issue of *Cartographic Perspectives* in 2006. I plan to be brief with my column as there is plenty to read on the following pages. This is an important issue on *Art and Cartography* that was spearheaded about a year ago by Denis Wood and John Krygier. Its importance lies in the fact that nothing like this has ever been published in an academic journal. Ever. To punctuate its importance, let me share a view of one of the reviewers of this volume:

...publish these articles. Nothing more, nothing less. Publish them. They are exciting. They are interesting: they stimulate thought! ...They are the first essays I've read (other than exhibition catalogs) that actually try — and succeed — to come to terms with the intersections of maps and art, that replace the old formula of maps in/as art, art in/as maps by

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(letter from editor continued)

engaging with the ideologies of “map” and “art.” This work might be done elsewhere...[but]...I feel, [it would be] constrained by the old formula...[this work] isn’t being done anywhere near cartographic journals and it desperately needs to be!...

Cartographic Perspectives really is setting new ground with this issue. I congratulate the four authors here on creating a volume that will significantly impact research and discussions on art and cartography. I also want to thank John Krygier and Denis Wood for pulling this issue together. These papers weave a story that includes an historical account of map art (Wood), a discussion of cognition and map art from the 1960s to 1980s (Varanka), a snap-shot of present day map art undertakings (kanarinka), and finally a focus on one present day map artist (Krygier). This issue ends with a catalogue of map artists (Wood). Enjoy!

As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions.

Warmest Regards,

Scott Freundschuh, Editor

*A note from Christopher Mixon,
Cartographic Collections
Section Editor*

In the entrance to Auburn University’s Library we have a bulletin board where the campus community posts items such as “Subleaser Needed” and “Motorcycle for Sale.” There are never any maps there. So, when I started editing this column, I had proposed a name change from the old *Map Library Bulletin Board* to something more than postings and pushpins. I wanted the column to become a prominent feature and to attract more substantial works. I also wanted to open the door to articles about collections that may not reside in libraries as we know them. My personal interest lies in the exploding number of digital collections to be found. And, I have noticed that the Western Association of Map Libraries (WAML) is working to create a clearinghouse for these digital collections.

I didn’t make a formal proposal about a name change until we had our board meeting in Portland, Maine, in 2004. No changes were made at that time. Another year passed and the subject came up at our board meeting in Salt Lake

City. Thinking it was high time to resolve this issue, I blurted out, “How about *Cartographic Collections?*” and after a brief discussion, the change was made official. The name change first appeared in our last issue, CP 52, as you may have noticed. So, from now until someone decides differently, the *Map Library Bulletin Board* will be known as *Cartographic Collections*.

If you have some ideas for articles that deal with entire collections—or even a particular map—whether it covers cataloging, shelving, paper maps, or digital maps, please consider submitting your work to *Cartographic Collections*. Submit your work to me, preferably as an email attachment and a MS Word document to mixonch@auburn.edu. Submissions via regular mail are gladly accepted and should be sent to me at RBD Library, 231 Mell St., Auburn University, AL 36849-5605.

Christopher Mixon

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