

my parents-in-law about nights on rooftops watching for rockets, bombs and fires.

Section Eight discusses the impacts of Geographic Information Systems, whose “low price and relative ease of production have also had the effect of democratizing map making, rendering it easier for the disadvantaged and for minorities to present viewpoints which often question the assumptions of the majority or highlight problems which might otherwise be glossed over” (344). Following post-WWII reconstruction, materials illustrate the turbulent post-1960s era of job losses, homelessness, and the provision of social services. The housing crisis during the economic downturn of the 1980s shows a city in social decline at the same time that tourism and the financial sector are “taking off.” “Swinging London” of the 1960s is depicted by a delightfully psychedelic Carnaby Street panorama reminiscent of Beatles’ album covers (356). Plans for Docklands redevelopment and others showing the upward growth of the city use the latest techniques to illustrate how the old and new can be combined in the present and future.

This work effectively accomplishes the author’s efforts to provide a truthful view of the history of this historic city. The general index and the separate index of people are both thorough and valuable for identifying not only cartographers and publishers but also people depicted in views, and for locating individual buildings, such as hospitals, and linking such diverse items as street names, sports (cricket), individual docks, and museums. There also is a helpful select reading list on historic maps of London, divided into bibliographies, monographs, and websites.

I did find that showing the majority of maps on only one page, with insets on the opposite page, sometimes resulted in me missing details of maps that might have warranted a two-page spread. There are a few examples where the original map was simply too large to condense onto a single page, and these were handled extremely well without any part of the map being “lost” to the binding. Such care typifies the overall quality of the work, and one wishes that all such volumes showed such attention to detail.

Having visited London but never having lived there, I sometimes needed a modern street map to help me place and appreciate the early maps. Fortunately, my spouse grew up in suburban London and assisted me in reconciling the historical and contemporary maps, but for those lacking a detailed geographical knowledge of the area, a simple modern street map of the central part of the city somewhere in the volume would have been helpful.

Overall, I highly recommend this book to all public and academic libraries and to anyone interested in the history of London. The price, the vast amount of information included, the writing and the range of items included makes this an extremely valuable aid to anyone seeking to understand this great city. We should all be grateful to Peter Barber, Laurence Worms, Roger Cline, Anne Saunders, the British Library, and Council of the London Topographical Society for this outstanding contribution. I sincerely wish I had seen the exhibit itself, but this volume certainly does it credit.

THE WORLD AT THEIR FINGERTIPS: EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY BRITISH TWO-SHEET DOUBLE-HEMISPHERE WORLD MAPS



By Geoff Armitage and Ashley Baynton-Williams.

British Library, 2012.

262 pages, 155 color plates.
\$65.00, cloth.

ISBN 978-0-7123-5877-4

Review by: Ian Muehlenhaus, James Madison University

The World at Their Fingertips is a book with a two-pronged mission: first, to definitively establish British two-sheet, double-hemisphere world maps as a distinct cartographic

genre, and second, to create as complete a catalog of such maps as possible, while concurrently exploring their history. Using the extensive collection of these maps housed at the British Library, the authors looked at “virtually all examples” of these maps that still exist in Britain in an attempt to establish a double-hemisphere world map genealogy of sorts. The book is very focused on achieving its goals, and it certainly achieves what the authors set out to accomplish.

Overall, the book is best summarized by its title; it is what it portends to be. Early on, the authors argue that

double-hemisphere world maps are important within the history of cartography. Such maps rose to prominence due to two interesting developments. First, the British were experiencing a prolonged period of prosperity following the reestablishment of the monarchy in 1660. Second, the public not only had more money to spend, but they were beginning to clamor for more geographical knowledge about the larger world around them. Before this time, maps were largely only affordable for the wealthy. Essentially, an increase in wealth throughout Britain broadly, coupled with a new interest in the world, helped create a market for mass-produced global maps and atlases. Businesses sprouted up to place the world at Britons' fingertips.

The structure of the book's content is unique. There are nine chapters, including the introduction, with three additional appendices. The introduction chapter succinctly contextualizes double-hemisphere maps within the history of cartography as a whole, before segueing into the first two chapters, which review the origins of the double-hemisphere world map in seventeenth-century France and the nuances of the British map trade in the following century. The second chapter in particular is very robust, and provides a thorough summary of the history of British map production and sales between 1650 and 1820. Chapter 3 comes off as a bit of a non sequitur. It presents the "high points" of mapping during the eighteenth century, beginning with an overview of James Cook's discoveries and concluding with a two-paragraph entry on Sir Isaac Newton. This is followed by a chapter on the "low points" of cartography during the same time period, concluding with an enjoyable discussion of a painting with a small double-hemispheric map in the background. Chapter 5 discusses topics related to double-hemisphere maps such as print runs, projections, prime meridians, and more relevant asides. The sixth chapter presents a map taxonomy of sorts, breaking down double-hemisphere world maps into different types based on a variety of factors, the primary of which is who drafted the earliest version. It is a fascinating look at how shamelessly people stole other people's maps during this era. Chapter 7 provides an incredibly detailed catalog of double-hemisphere world maps broken down by 24 mapmakers. This results in well over 24 maps being shown, it must be noted, as the authors include numerous map versions from the same cartographers. The history of each mapmaker is briefly reviewed here as well. This 113-page chapter acts as a map catalog. It is then followed with a two-page concluding chapter.

This book delivers what it says it will: an incredibly detailed, as holistic as possible, index and analysis of British double-hemispheric maps. There can be no critique of how well it fulfills its goals. If this is what you are looking for in a book, look no further! The map reproductions are large, full-color, and semi-gloss. The book feels as though it has more map illustrations than text, which is a good thing. To facilitate the subject matter, the book was published with the binding on the pages' short-end, allowing the double-hemispheric maps to fill the page layout. The production quality is very good. All of the maps are clearly reproduced. The writing is excellent.

On the other hand, like any book, this one suffers from several shortcomings. By attempting to achieve two goals—review the history of *and* catalog these maps—some strange things happen to the structure of the book. For example, the chapters vary drastically in style, composition, and length, making the book difficult to read through from start to finish. Some of the chapters, particularly the first ones, read like journal articles on the history of cartography. Others are structured more like concise, academic encyclopedia entries. For example, Chapter 4 ("Low points in world mapping...") does not have an introductory paragraph. It just begins with the heading "California" and dives into a description about how cartographers really missed the boat on the fact that California was not an island. One concern about both Chapter 3 and 4 is that at times there is little connection made to double-hemispheric maps. The average chapter length is approximately ten pages. Chapter 2, on the other hand, is 113 pages long. The inconsistencies in chapter length make for an awkward reading experience. After a brief introduction, Chapter 7 essentially starts listing the creators of double-hemispheric maps and providing image after image of them. This is the catalog part of the book. It does not feel like a chapter; it feels like a file catalog. This "chapter" might have worked better as a separate section of the book following the other chapters. In sum, this book is probably best enjoyed piece-by-piece, chapter-by-chapter.

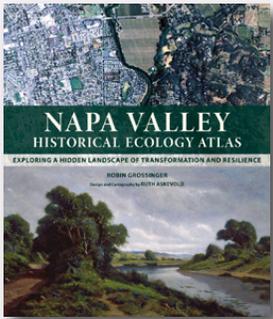
Though it is not the most readable book, this book stands as a substantial contribution when it comes to cataloging the history of cartography. It is the ultimate data source on double-hemispheric maps! It could also act as an excellent visual resource for those studying or teaching about the history of cartography during the magnificent and important periods of Dutch and British world hegemonies. Beyond academia, I can see this volume working as a coffee-table

book, as well. The authors need to be commended on their thoroughness, beautiful attention to detail, and the passion they display toward the subject matter.

On the other hand, this book is certain to have a limited market. For armchair map lovers, this book's focus on double-hemispheric maps is overkill. The images all begin to look the same. In fact, some of the images do show the same maps, just as different print versions with

slightly varied coloration. From an academic standpoint, aside from the first several chapters' historical reviews, there is a dearth of new knowledge to be gleaned. The book is absolutely packed full of excellent data and information about double-hemispheric maps, but it never quite packages this data into takeaway nuggets of knowledge. And to be fair, the book never says it will do this. However, acting primarily as a detailed repository does, unfortunately, limit its marketability both to the public and academics.

NAPA VALLEY HISTORICAL ECOLOGY ATLAS: EXPLORING A HIDDEN LANDSCAPE OF TRANSFORMATION AND RESILIENCE



By Robin Grossinger, design and cartography by Ruth Askevold.

University of California Press, 2012.

223 pages, maps, illustrations.
\$39.95, hardcover.

ISBN 978-0-520-26910-1

Review by: Lisa Sutton

The *Napa Valley Historical Ecology Atlas* is a beautiful book, richly illustrated with maps and historical photographs of the Napa Valley. Divided into eight chapters, the first looks at the Napa Valley through time, while the next six chapters each take on an ecological component of the Valley: Oak Savannas, Wildflower Fields, Creeks, Valley Wetlands, the Napa River, and Tidal Marshlands. The book concludes with chapters on Landscape Transformation and Resilience, and Landscape Tours, offering a forward-looking view of where the Valley is going from here, and how to see and enjoy this place.

The book begins with an introduction to historical ecology and some of the inherent challenges in exploring past ecologies and landscapes. It then moves on to discuss how the Napa Valley is situated within a geographical, geological, and climatic context. Several maps and diagrams are provided to illustrate the geology, drainage, and natural history of the region. A map reconstructing the habitats and environments that would have been found in the Napa Valley in the early 1800s is provided, as well as an interesting explanation of how the authors used the source data that they had to create this map. A timeline of the data sources used in the book, ranging from Mexican land-grant sketches and diaries from the early 1800s to modern

aerial photography and soil surveys, provides a nice overview of the range of data that informed this synthesis.

Each of the sections on an individual aspect of the ecology of the Valley discusses its particular characteristics and spatial patterns, as well as its cultural significance. A discussion of the loss of oak savannas and historical evidence for where they would have been found concludes with a look at where oaks have persisted and a possible plan for “re-oaking” the Valley to include these trees within the modern landscape. The chapter on creeks examines the unique conditions of water in the Valley and human impacts over time on its many creeks, as well as the roles they continue to play today. The chapter on Valley Wetlands explores the characteristics of the several varieties of wetlands found in the Napa Valley, then looks at changes to the overall wetland landscape, including a nice map comparing the historical and contemporary extents of wetlands. The Napa River, as the central component of the Napa Valley, merits the longest chapter. Parts of the historical river are explored, as well as ways in which the river has changed or been changed, and the ecology of the river in the past and present. The tidal marshlands make up the last main section of the Valley, with a discussion of their characteristics, the dredging and reclamation they have undergone, and recent restoration efforts as well as the effects of sea level rise.

The chapter entitled “Landscape Transformation and Resilience” includes a set of maps that compare the habitat types and land uses in the early 1800s and in 2010, and which show the changes that have taken place in Napa Valley. It also discusses how the historical landscape perspective can allow people to better understand the context of the land and make more conscious choices about how