

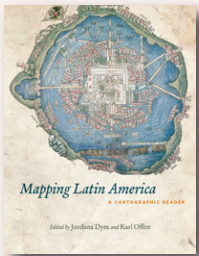
appearing to have been developed independently. Some atomization is to be expected given the diversity of fields represented in this volume, but there seem to have been several missed opportunities for fruitful connections (e.g., between the Book of the Fayum and Salway's contribution or between the Turin Papyrus and the Peutinger Map).

The most regrettable absence, in terms of coverage, is the Artemidorus Papyrus. Although it is mentioned twice (7; 106n.4), it never receives any serious consideration. In addition to its importance as an example of Greco-Roman cartography, it might also have helped to connect several authors' contributions. The papyrus was first widely publicized in 2006 and was subsequently published in full in 2008. Its front contains an unfinished map of an unidentified territory, excerpts from geographical texts including the work of the Greek geographer Artemidorus, and remarkably realistic sketches of human faces, hands, and feet. The back features a menagerie of some forty sketches of exotic animals, many of which are accompanied by

Greek labels. Although a vocal minority of scholars initially claimed the papyrus to be a fake, a series of articles in 2009 have led most scholars to accept it as a genuine artifact. As such, it provides important evidence for Greco-Roman cartographic practices, and I have no doubt that the combined expertise of the contributors to this volume could have made significant and timely interventions in the scholarly discussion about it.

Ancient Perspectives is a very welcome addition to an exciting and rapidly growing field in the study of the ancient Mediterranean. Talbert and his fellow contributors have brought together into a single volume a sweeping analysis of the mapping traditions of the ancient Mediterranean and Near East, which as a whole makes a powerful argument for the pervasiveness of ancient cartographic practice and the importance of studying the ancient Mediterranean and the Near East together. For specialists and non-specialists alike, this book will be an important reference and a catalyst for further research on this important topic.

MAPPING LATIN AMERICA: A CARTOGRAPHIC READER



Edited by Jordana Dym and Karl Offen.

University of Chicago Press, 2011.

360 pages, 118 color plates, 12 halftones, 1 line drawing. \$40.00, paperback.

ISBN: 978-0-226-61822-7

Review by: Judith Tyner, Professor Emerita, California State University Long Beach

Although *Mapping Latin America* would appear, from the title, to be a history of Latin American cartography, it is much more. As the subtitle indicates, the book is a reading of various maps throughout the history of Latin America. They are used not to simply illustrate a place or time period, but are “read” for their meaning and significance to the time.

The book is organized chronologically with three major sections: Colonial, Nineteenth Century, and Twentieth Century. Each of those sections is divided into thematic subsections that deal with particular map types. The editors, Karl Offen and Jordana Dym, a geographer and a historian respectively, have put together a first-rate multidisciplinary team of fifty-four contributors. Some

contributors come from geography, history, and Latin American Studies, as would be expected, but others are from archaeology, anthropology, city planning, economics, and environmental science. There are fifty-seven well-written articles, each of which is illustrated by at least one color map, for a total of ninety-eight maps. It is a real plus to have all of the maps in color and within the essays rather than grouped in a color signature.

In a brief but cogent foreword, Matthew Edney speaks of new views of maps and cartography, and notes that the essays in the book embody those new (since 1980) approaches to the history of cartography. He observes that the maps discussed are examined “in terms of the societies and culture in which they were made and consumed.” In many older histories of cartography, the context of a map’s making was generally ignored.

Regardless of whether one reads the book cover to cover or dips into subjects of particular interest, the Introduction by the editors is a must-read. It is an excellent discussion of current thinking on the study of maps. The authors note that they were frustrated with the limited use of maps in the study of Latin America, as maps were usually used

only for location or to show distribution of products. In this chapter, which draws on the work of Woodward and Harley, the editors provide the now requisite discussion of “what is a map?” and a section titled “How to read maps”. Defining “map” is important here because most of the maps illustrated are not the conventional maps of traditional histories of cartography, but include such non-traditional types as transit maps, chamber of commerce maps, propaganda maps, and *arpilleras*—fabric maps of political resistance stitched by women. Many of these map types have been ignored by cartographic historians in the past as not being “real” maps.

How to read maps might seem at first to be an elementary subject for a book of this type, but it is crucial to understanding these discussions. Here the editors are not referring to how to use a road map to find the way from Point A to Point B, but to reading the meaning of maps, to analyzing and interpreting them. They provide a reading of a map of the Bolivar Railway as an opening to the Introduction and go on to discuss how title, legends, scale, projection, and symbols impact the interpretation of maps. Importantly, they discuss putting a map into the context of its time and technology. These last two contexts are often

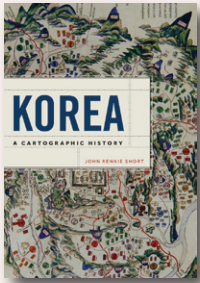
ignored in studies of maps as material culture and can lead to serious misinterpretations.

The editors also provide introductory essays for each of the chronological sections that discuss the period and mapping during that time. These nicely set the scene for the chapters that follow and are helpful for those readers who might be interested in the maps, but are not familiar with Latin American history.

Each essay has notes at the end and a list of resources/bibliography, but at the end of the book is a section titled “Additional Resources.” This is not simply a list of references, but is an essay in itself discussing the literature of the various topics that form the basis of the book, such as “Maps, Lies, and Silences,” “Critical Cultural Cartography,” and “Maps as Art” as well as “National Cartographies” and “Scientific Missions.” It is a succinct review of the literature on the subject of mapping Latin America.

Mapping Latin America could be used as a model of how to create a multi-disciplinary work and I highly recommend it.

KOREA: A CARTOGRAPHIC HISTORY



By John Rennie Short.

University of Chicago Press, 2012.

160 pages, 71 color plates. \$50.00, cloth.

ISBN: 978-0-226-75364-5

Review by: Jonathan F. Lewis, Benedictine University

Having produced more than forty books about geography, urban development, and the history of cartography, John Rennie Short knows how to construct a focused and readable manuscript. *Korea: A Cartographic History* displays to good effect his writing and research skills in this short history of Korean cartography copiously illustrated with color plates.

Inspired by his late father, a veteran of the Korean War, Short directs his book toward a general audience rather than experts in historical cartography. He begins his

task with a brief description of global space and how Korea’s cartographic legacy fits into the narrative of that concept’s development and diffusion. He quickly documents the existence of this process by showing how two different regions generated similarly self-centered world maps at almost exactly the same time, using as examples one of Korea’s oldest maps (centered on East Asia) and a European world map made using Ptolemy’s *Geographia*. Each leaves unknown areas blank, which is to say everything that appears on the other region’s map (plus the Americas, an area unknown in both regions). A third map, produced in Korea a few centuries later, demonstrates the changes that cultural contact with the Jesuits and Chinese had by that time wrought on Korean mapmaking. By the book’s end, Korean cartography reflects mapping practices common throughout the world, with results comparable to maps made in other parts of the globe.

Short divides his book into three chronologically successive sections to explain how this convergence came about: