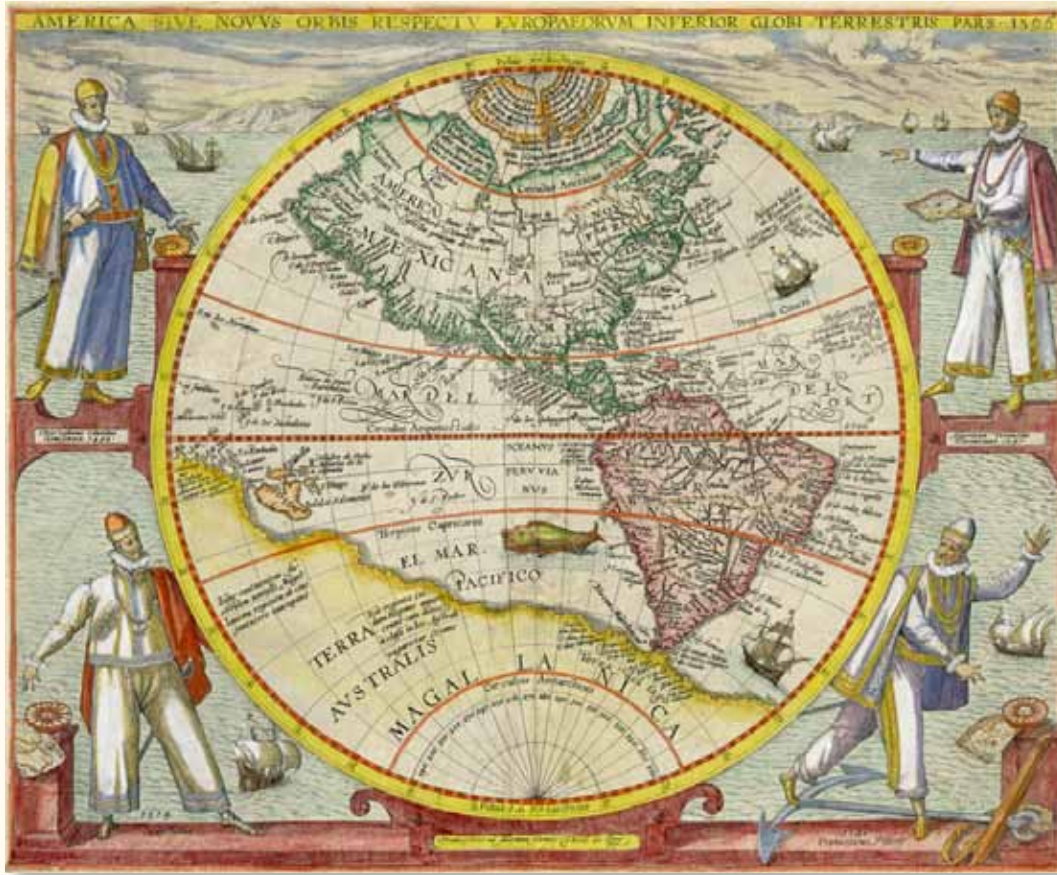


The NEATLINE

A NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS MAP SOCIETY

Fall 2019



Five Centuries of Mexican Maps

Texas Map Society Fall 2019 Meeting

September 19 - 22, 2019 • Alpine

For meeting details, please see pages 3-4.

Above Map: Theodore de Bry and Girolamo Benzoni, *America Sive Novus Orbis Respectu Europaeorum Inferior Globi Terrestris Pars*, engraving with applied color on paper, 32.5 x 39.5 cm., from *Americae pars sexta sive historiae ab Hieronymo Bezono* (Frankfurt am Main: De Bry, 1596).
All maps courtesy of Yana and Marty Davis Map Collection, Museum of the Big Bend

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Big Bend Calls!

Break away to join friends and colleagues in the vast Big Bend Country, **September 19-22, 2019** for the Fall Meeting of the Texas Map Society. The folks at the Museum of the Big Bend at Sul Ross State University in Alpine are rolling out the red carpet for our visit to attend the opening of a pivotal map exhibit - *Five Centuries of Mexican Maps* featuring maps from the Yana and Marty Davis Map Collection. Our trip begins on Thursday, September 19, with dinner at Spicewood Restaurant (formerly Come and Take It BBQ) in Alpine. Friday, September 20, will be sightseeing and lunch at the Hotel Limpia in Fort Davis, but we will be back in time for a bit of shopping in Alpine before attending the *Five Centuries of Mexican Maps* opening reception. We have an exciting slate of speakers for our TMS sessions on Saturday, September 21, at the Espino Center at Sul Ross University, including our own **Marty Davis** and **Wes Brown**, **Matt Walker**, and **Alex Hidalgo**. These gents will share their in-depth research on Mexican maps from the sixteenth to nineteenth centuries. The day ends with dinner at the Holland Hotel, then on to the Star Party at nearby McDonald Observatory. It will be a memorable couple of days!

Need a room in Alpine? Our room blocks at the historic Holland Hotel and the Holiday Inn Express have expired, but feel free to contact area hotels for available rooms. If you have difficulty, let us know. There are several ways to travel to Alpine – by car; by airline to Midland or El Paso, then by rental car; and even by Amtrak train via San Antonio. Join us! So much to see and do – from historic maps to the stars!

As always, Texas Map Society wants to hear you! Please let us know if you are interested in helping to plan programs, serve in leadership positions, or have thoughts on TMS events and activities, or how to grow our organization to a broader group of cartography enthusiasts. An easy way to send comments is to go to the contact page of the TMS website: <https://texasmapsociety.org/contact/>.

See you soon in Alpine!

- Brenda McClurkin, President

FROM THE EDITOR

The TMS membership in recent years has provided me with numerous articles to include in each edition of *The Neatline*. I again want to offer particular thanks to Ben Huseman and Walt Wilson, who provide articles for every single edition. But it is a special pleasure to also receive submissions for the first time from authors like Alex Chiba, the Map Vault Team Leader of the General Land Office of the State of Texas (there's a nice title for you), who wrote on the Land Districts of Texas, and from Rachel DeShong, the Special Event Coordinator and Map Curator of The Texas Collection at Baylor University, who provided this edition's My Favorite Map feature.



After last spring's TMS meeting at the DeGolyer Library at SMU in Dallas, the membership toured the nearby George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum. I enjoyed getting to sit at the Resolute Desk in the reconstruction of the Oval Office in the museum. But my favorite part of the tour was the special exhibit on Presidential Retreats,

from Camp David to Kennebunkport to the LBJ ranch, and of course to the Prairie Chapel Ranch retreat of George W. and Laura Bush near Crawford. My own small ranch is not much more than 30 miles from the Bush property. And like George W., I spend a lot of my time there clearing brush. So I could really relate to this exhibit about a reporter asking why the President didn't use an axe.

- David Finrock, Editor of *The Neatline*

The Neatline is published semi-annually by the Texas Map Society c/o Special Collections The University of Texas at Arlington Library • Box 19497 • 902 Planetarium Place Arlington, TX 76019-0497 <http://www.TexasMapSociety.org>

For more information contact

David Finrock - Editor, Texas Map Society • Email: editorTMS@aol.com

Texas Map Society members and others who helped produce this issue are: Alex Chiba, Marty Davis, Rachel DeShong, David Finrock, James Harkins, Ben Huseman, Brenda McClurkin, Michael Utt, Walt Wilson, and graphic designer Carol Lehman.

A **Neatline** is the outermost drawn line surrounding a map. It defines the height and width of the map and usually constrains the cartographic images.



Texas
Map
Society

Texas Map Society Fall 2019 Meeting • September 20 -22, 2019

PROGRAM

Thursday, September 20

6:30 pm

Dinner

Spicewood Restaurant, Highway 90, Alpine (*Dutch treat*)

Friday, September 20

9:00 am

Depart Holland Hotel for Fort Davis (*by private car*)

9:30 am

Tour Fort Davis

(*admission free with National Park Service pass*)

11:30 am

Depart Fort Davis

12:00 pm

Lunch

Hotel Limpia, Fort Davis (*Dutch treat, \$25*)

2:00 pm

Return to Alpine

Afternoon

Explore Alpine shops and galleries

5:00-7:00 pm

Evening reception

Five Centuries of Mexican Maps Exhibit

Museum of the Big Bend (*included in registration fee*)



Novi Orbis par Borealis, 1600, Matthias Quad



Mapa Topografica de la Heroica Ciudad de Veracruz, 1854, Juan de Dios Sanchez

Saturday, September 21

8:30 am

Registration

Espino Center, Sul Ross State University

9:15 am

Welcome

9:30 am

Five Centuries of Mexican Maps

Marty Davis

Private collector

10:30 am

Break

11:00 am

When Indigenous Maps Ruled Mexico

Alex Hidalgo

PhD, Texas Christian University

12:00 pm

Lunch

1:30 pm

José Antonio de Alzate y Ramirez

Wes Brown

Private Collector

2:30 pm

Break

Continued on page 4

Fall Meeting *continued*

Saturday, September 21

3:00 pm

Antonio Garcia Cubas' 1848 Atlas Pintoresco of Mexico: Mapping a National Identity

Matt Walter

Curator of Collections and the Yana and Marty Davis Map Collection, Museum of the Big Bend

4:00 pm

Depart

5:30 pm

Cocktails

Holland Hotel (*no-host bar*)

6:00 pm

Dinner

Holland Hotel (*Dutch treat*)

7:15 pm

Leave for Star Party

McDonald Observatory (*private car*)

8:30 pm

Star Party

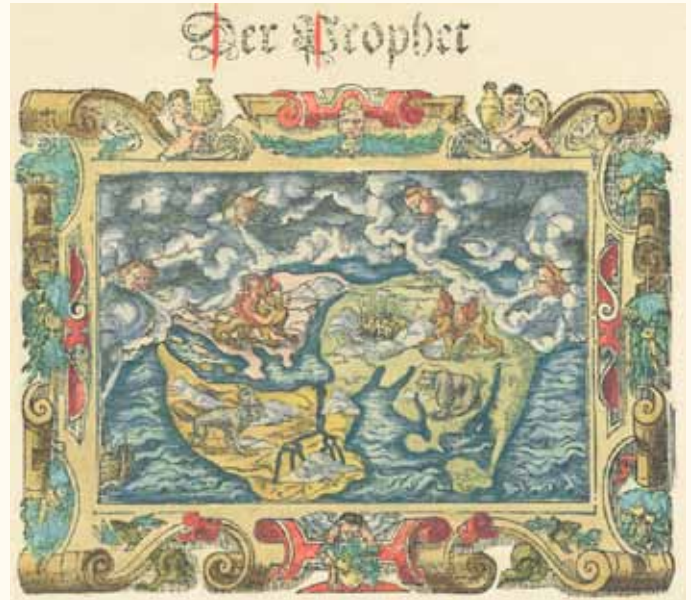
McDonald Observatory (*\$12 per person*)

11:00 pm

Return to hotel

Sunday, September 22

More touring on your own



Der Prophet, "Daniel's Dream", 1529, Hans Lufft

LODGING

Holland Hotel (*historic boutique hotel*)

<http://thehollandhoteltexas.com/>

209 West Holland Avenue • Alpine, Texas 79830

(432) 837-2800 • 1-800-535-8040

Holiday Inn Express

2004 East Highway 90 • Alpine, Texas 79830

(432) 837-9597

For more detailed meeting, registration and hotel information, go to:

<https://texasmapsociety.org/events/>

Map at Left: *Nova Hispania, Nova Galicia, Guatemala*, 1630/40, Joannes de Laet



MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Sul Ross State University is a tobacco-free campus.



2019 Spring Meeting of the TMS in Dallas

By David Finrock

The Texas Map Society was pleased to return to SMU in Dallas on 26-27 April 2019 for its annual Spring meeting.

Friday evening, the membership enjoyed a wine and cheese reception at the DeGolyer Library. That was followed by a preview of the new exhibit *“A Highway to the Pacific: Building the Transcontinental Railroad”* in the exhibit hall of the adjoining Fondren Library. Some of the membership then adjourned to the Ozona Grill for a Dutch Treat dinner.



Part of the exhibit *“A Highway to the Pacific: Building the Transcontinental Railroad”*

The Texas Map Society members gathered Saturday morning in the Texana Room of the DeGolyer Library. After a continental breakfast, new TMS President **Brenda McClurkin** welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introduced our first speaker, our own **Russell Martin**.

As Director of the DeGolyer Library, Russell was responsible for the exhibit, so he was the perfect choice to introduce TMS members to *“A Highway to the Pacific: Building the Transcontinental Railroad”*. Russell explained both the facts and the fantasy behind the dream of linking the east and west coasts of the United States in the middle of the 19th century. And during every break in the day’s programs, some members would venture into the exhibit to peruse the maps, broadsides and even stereoscopic photographs of the actual construction and route of the transcontinental railroad.

The second presentation of the morning was by another long-time TMS member, **Jeff Dunn**. We are all well aware of Jeff’s love of state highway maps. But this time, he threw us a curve, with a wonderful discussion of *“Electric Interurban Railroads in Texas: 1901-1948.”* He shared how the Dallas-Fort Worth area

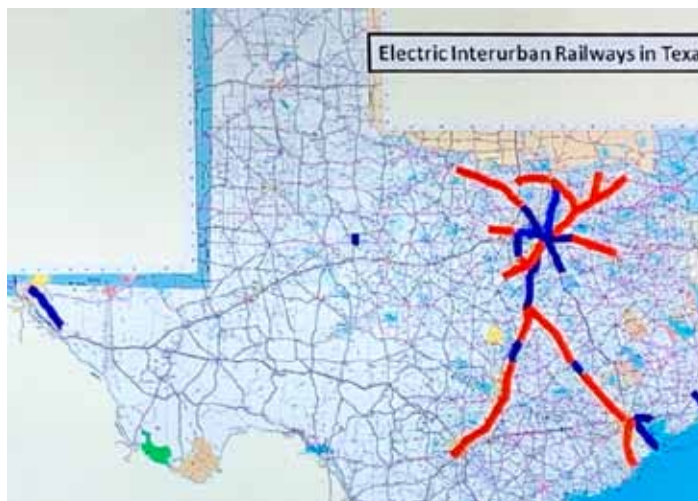
Continued on page 6



Russell Martin welcomes the TMS to the DeGolyer Library



Jeff Dunn introduces the TMS to the history of Texas Interurban railroads

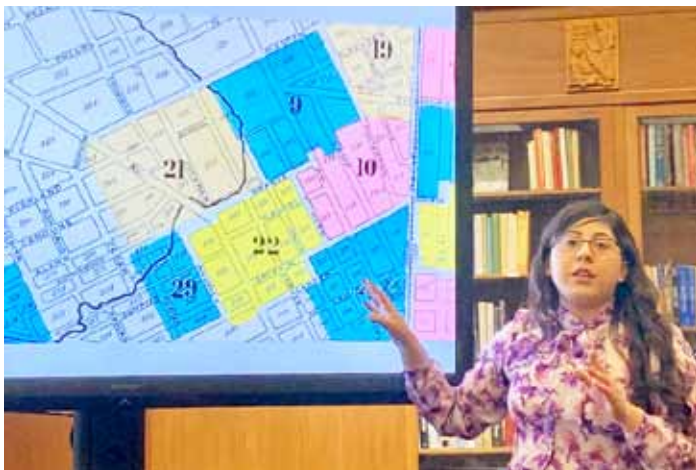


Map of Interurban Railways in Texas

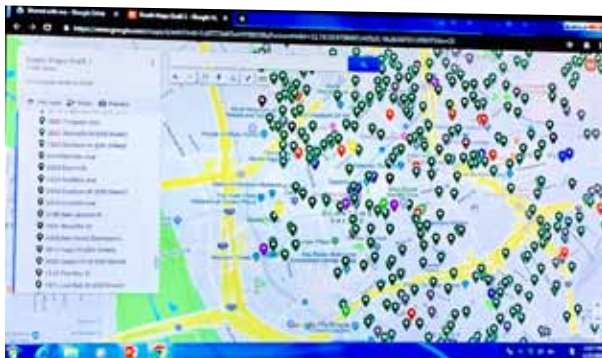
Fall Meeting *continued*

had the preponderance of interurban railroads (electric streetcars that traveled between cities), but it wasn't a monopoly. The Houston-Galveston area also developed several interurbans. The big surprise was the revelation of a four mile long interurban from Roby to North Roby in west Texas. Jeff's closing date of 1948 for his talk wasn't because he didn't want to research further. The last interurban in Texas closed in 1948, because of the widespread availability of automobiles by that time.

Priscilla Escobedo is a new arrival at Special Collections at the UTA library. She was hired as a new archivist just a few weeks before the spring meeting. She wasted no time before making her first presentation to the TMS, with a discussion of "*Un vaso de agua: Water Accessibility in Early Dallas Mexican-American Neighborhoods.*" She described how water was delivered in wagons hauled by mules at a time when many houses had no connection to city water and sewage lines. And it wasn't just "early Dallas" that suffered. Even as late as the 1960s some west Dallas neighborhoods such as Eagle Ford had no water and sewage connections. In the Q&A period after the presentation, Ben Huseman asked Priscilla to describe her death maps. What had begun as a hobby has morphed into a real research project. She showed interactive maps she had prepared with data from every death certificate issued in Dallas between 1915 and 1919. The flu pandemic really stood out on these maps, but other deaths ranging from accidental falls to homicides also showed up. She intends



Priscilla Escobedo discusses water availability in early Dallas



Priscilla Escobedo's Dallas "Death Map"



Exhibits in the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum

to expand the database for every year from 1901 through 1949, which should be a boon to researchers.

The group then strolled over to the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum, where we enjoyed a wonderful lunch at Café 43. Then we were on our own to tour the museum's exhibits, including the life size reproduction of the West Wing Oval Office of the White House. Some of us even took the opportunity to have a photo taken while seated at the reproduction of the Resolute Desk. The highlight though, was the special temporary exhibit on "*Presidential Retreats: Away from the White House*", which described the Presidential getaways that help them cope with the tremendous pressures of the job. The primary focus of the exhibit was on Camp David, outside of Washington, DC, Walkers Point in Kennebunkport, Maine, The LBJ Ranch in Fredericksburg, Texas, and of course the Prairie Chapel Ranch near Crawford, Texas.



David Finfrook in the "Oval Office"

Photos courtesy of David Finfrook

MY FAVORITE MAP

By Rachel DeShong, Map Curator, The Texas Collection, Baylor University



Figure 1: *Map of the United States with the Contiguous British & Spanish Possessions. 1816.* Room 201, The Texas Collection, Baylor University.

Can a cartophile truly have only one favorite map? It equates to asking a parent to choose their favorite child. It is difficult and feels, in some ways, like a betrayal. I contend that true cartophiles could easily compose a lengthy list of their favorite selections; maps that are, in our humblest opinions, superior. Operating from this mindset, I would choose John Melish's 1816 *Map of the United States with the Contiguous British & Spanish Possessions* (see Figure 1) as one of my own personal favorites. Not only is it a beautiful map that offers substantive insight into its historical time period, but I consider it to be one of the most significant and influential maps we have at The Texas Collection. The long-term effects this map had on the borders of Texas stretched for over a century after it was first published.

Renowned cartographer John Melish was born in Scotland in 1771 and was orphaned at an early age. In 1811, he emigrated to the United States in search of better economic prospects. At first, Melish wanted to try his hand at agriculture, so he traveled extensively throughout the

United States to find an ideal location for his homestead. During his adventures, he maintained meticulous notes on the general climates and environs of the locations he visited. He ultimately settled in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania a year later and decided to publish an account of his explorations, which, of course, would require maps to supplement it. Over the next decade, Melish became a skilled and prominent cartographer. He died on December 30, 1822 after a brief but prolific career in mapmaking.

Melish further expounded upon his knowledge and opinions concerning his map, geography, and topography in a companion book entitled *A Geographical Description of the United States* (see Figure 2). In this tome, Melish voiced frustration as "he...was frequently led to regret, that there was no map in existence presenting an entire view of the United States territory."¹ Thus he decided to create a more complete map of the United States. Originally, "it was

Continued on page 8

¹ John Melish, *A Geographical Description of the United States: with the Contiguous British and Spanish Possessions, Intended as an Accompaniment to Melish's Map of These Countries* (Philadelphia: J. Melish, 1816), 3.

My Favorite Map *continued*

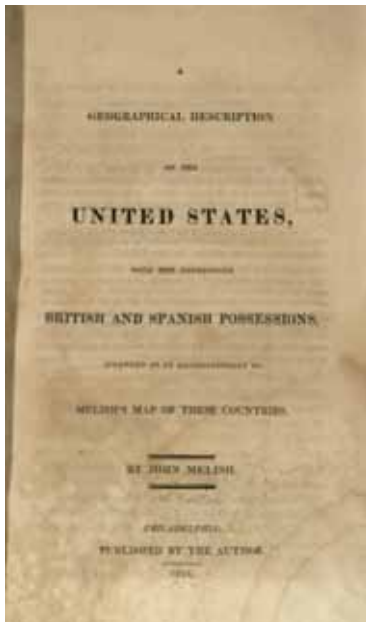


Figure 2: The title page of the companion book. *A Geographical Description of the United States: with the Contiguous British and Spanish Possessions, Intended as an Accompaniment to Melish's Map of these Countries* by John Melish. Philadelphia, 1816. The Texas Collection, Baylor University.

Melish's work is notable for being one of the first maps to illustrate the western border of the United States' territory which stretched to the Pacific Ocean following the Louisiana Purchase of 1803.

Melish's map rose to greater significance through the Adams-Onís Treaty of 1819 in which the 1818 edition was cited specifically in the treaty as the map used to determine political borders. The treaty was the culmination of prolonged boundary disputes between Spain and the United States with Florida at the heart of the conflict. Spain was attempting to retain its colonial empire in the Americas which was, in the 1810s, crumbling at the hands of revolutionaries. The United States, on the other hand, was rapidly expanding its borders but was highly concerned about British influence in Florida. After the finer points were settled, the Adams-Onís Treaty accomplished two of the United States' major priorities:

1. Spain ceded Florida to the United States.
2. The United States could now claim a solid, international boundary extending from the American South to the Pacific Northwest, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean.

intended to carry the map no farther west than the ridge dividing the waters falling into the Gulf of Mexico, from those falling into the Pacific Ocean."² In layman's terms, Melish wanted the Continental Divide to be the western extent of his work. However, Melish ultimately expanded the map to include the Pacific coast because he thought "the object could be accomplished on a scale sufficiently without swelling the subject to an inconvenient size."³ (Considering the map is roughly three feet high by four feet wide, I wonder what Melish thought constituted an inconvenient size.) Melish wrote that the "object of this map was not to give *geographical details*; but to present an interesting picture of a *great whole*."⁴ Historically speaking,

In order to secure these concessions from Spain, the United States relinquished any and all claims to Texas. Ironically, three years prior, in 1816, Melish asserted in his companion book that although Texas was technically Spanish territory, "by the Americans, [Texas was] considered part of the territory of the United States."⁵ Popular opinion, however, deemed it far more advantageous for the United States to acquire Florida and a border that extended to the Pacific Ocean than to retain claims to Texas. After a series of delays, both nations finally ratified the treaty in 1821. Later that year, Mexico formally gained its independence from the Spanish Empire. A subsequent treaty ratified in 1832 by the United States and Mexico reaffirmed the border established by the Adams-Onís Treaty.

Using the contours of John Melish's map, the border followed three waterways: the Sabine River, the Red River, and the Arkansas River (see Figure 3). In the companion book, Melish wrote:

"The Red river rises in the mountains, to the eastward of Santa Fé, between north latitude 27 and 38°, and pursuing a general south-east course, makes several remarkable bends, as exhibited on the map; but it received no very considerable streams until it forms a junction with the Wachitta, and its great mass of waters, a few miles before it reaches the Mississippi."⁶

However, Melish downplayed the importance of the Mississippi River in favor of the Arkansas and Red Rivers. The rivers are described, incorrectly, as "much longer than the Mississippi... What then must be the aggregate effect of the whole of these waters?" Yet there were several problems with Melish's



Figure 3: The Adams-Onís Treaty of 1819 boundary as displayed on a later map. *A New Chart of the World on Mercator's Projection with the Tracks of the Most Celebrated & Recent Navigators* by John Crane Dower. London, 1842. Drawer 146, The Texas Collection, Baylor University.

² Ibid, 4.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid, 13. Emphasis added by the original author.

⁵ Ibid, 155.

⁶ Ibid, 38.

Continued on page 9

My Favorite Map *continued*

depiction of the area. Firstly, his 100th Meridian was off target by nearly ninety miles. Secondly, Melish only recorded a single fork in the Red River while, in actuality, there were two (see Figure 4).

Historical events never occur in a vacuum; there is always a cause and an effect. This Melish map had a profound impact on the border of Texas and Oklahoma long after it was published or considered up-to-date. The previously mentioned inaccuracies became problematic in deciphering the border between Texas and the Indian Territory (Oklahoma). To add to the chaos, when Texas entered the Union in 1845, it was granted the right to settle boundary disputes. Texans argued that the North Fork of the Red River was the true boundary, primarily because the southern fork (Prairie Dog Town Fork) resulted in significantly less land for the Lone Star State. During the latter years of the nineteenth century, Texas established and maintained a county in the disputed area and distributed land to settlers. In order to resolve the dispute, the issue proceeded to the U.S. Supreme Court. On March 16, 1896, the Court ruled that the southern fork of the Red River was the primary branch depicted on Melish's map and was therefore the official boundary. In order to reach this verdict, Supreme Court justices consulted Melish's original map and companion book. As a result of the decision, the disputed land became property of the federal government. The conflict was not so easily resolved as



Figure 4: A detail of Red River from John Melish's map. Color added by author. *Map of the United States with the Contiguous British & Spanish Possessions*. 1816. Room 201, The Texas Collection, Baylor University.

it resulted in two more Supreme Court cases before the modern borders were established. In 1927, the Court approved a final, conclusive survey of the Red River boundary and the 100th Meridian, thus ending a long and contentious boundary dispute.

This map is high on my list of favorite maps, because it serves as a concrete example of the long-term impact history has on our lives. Melish originally intended for his map to show the breadth of the United States, yet its impact extended into the realm of international relations in the form of the Adams-Onís Treaty and further influenced American history through its shortcomings; failing to accurately define the borders of two neighboring states. I am also fond of the fact that Melish's map was integral to defining the state's iconic shape, making Texas one of the easiest states in the nation to recognize. Lastly, as a student of history and a map curator interested in having patrons peruse the collection's materials, I relish the thought that U.S. Supreme Court justices were hovering over Melish's map and companion book, utilizing the historical record to reach a monumental legal decision.

Bibliography

Brooks, Philip C. *Diplomacy and the Borderlands: The Adams-Onís Treaty of 1819*. New York: Octagon Books, 1970.

Ristow, Walter W. "John Melish." In *American Maps and Mapmakers: Commercial Cartography in the Nineteenth Century*, 179-90. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1985.

Ristow, Walter W. "John Melish and His Map of the United States." In *A La Carte: Selected Papers on Maps and Atlases*, 162-82. Washington: Library of Congress, 1972. *Library of Congress Quarterly Journal of Current Acquisitions*.

Stagg, J. C. A. *Borderlines in Borderlands: James Madison and the Spanish-American Frontier, 1776-1821*. New Haven; London: Yale University Press,

2009. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt1npjn3>.

Tyson, Carl N. *The Red River in Southwestern History*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1981.

If you would like to submit an article about your own favorite map for a future issue of *The Neatline*, contact the editor David Finfrock at editorTMS@aol.com.

Texas General Land Office Acquires and Conserves Atlas of Maps Made by Captain Zebulon M. Pike

By James Harkins

This past May, Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush announced that the Texas General Land Office Archives and Records, as part of the agency's *Save Texas History Program*, acquired and conserved an important atlas of six printed maps created by U.S. Army Captain Zebulon M. Pike. Published in 1810, the atlas illustrates Pike's troubled 1806-1807 exploration of the Louisiana Territory, which included the northern boundary of Spanish Texas. Captain Pike's work greatly contributed to knowledge of the new territory acquired by the United States as well as parts of New Spain. His Texas journey included stops in El Paso, San Antonio, Nacogdoches, and several sites along the *Camino Real*, eventually concluding in Natchitoches, Louisiana.

"Zebulon Pike is an important, though often overshadowed figure in American history, and a contemporary of Lewis and Clark. His work, which included a favorable report on Texas in 1806 and 1807, helped open the West to further exploration. Pike was one of the earliest Americans to explore Texas, and without him, Texas history could have been very different," said Commissioner Bush. "I'm pleased to announce that the GLO acquired this atlas to provide new material for researchers of early Texas history, and conserved it so that it will be protected for future generations. This is another example of how the GLO is working to Save Texas History."

Of note, these maps include the second earliest reference to "San Antonio Valero," better known today as the Alamo, in the entire 45,000-piece map collection housed at the Texas General Land Office.

Through his journals, official reports, and maps, Pike's observations of Texas and the Southwest helped inspire a generation of Americans to consider moving west into unknown foreign territory as one of the first steps in securing America's so-



Frederic Remington, *Zebulon Pike Entering Santa Fe*, Denver Public Library, western History Digital Image Collections.

called "Manifest Destiny." Pike provided one of the first literary snapshots of the people of Spanish Texas written by an American citizen, which made the inhabitants of San Antonio and northern Mexico more relatable to their American neighbors. Years later, Stephen F. Austin acknowledged and agreed with Pike's favorable reviews of Texas in a July 20, 1821 letter to Joseph H. Hawkins. Austin said, "All travelers unite with our much lamented Gen. Pike, in alleging the climate to be one of the most delightful in this, or any other country."¹

The atlas has an interesting provenance of its own. Its original owner was Frederick Remington, a prominent American painter, illustrator, sculptor, and writer who specialized in depictions of the American West. It is believed that Remington owned this atlas to

Continued on page 11



Frederick Remington's bookplate appears on the inside of the Pike atlas' cover.

¹ Eugene Barker, ed., *Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1919: The Austin Papers*, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1924), 3 vols., Vol 1, Part 1, pp. 402-404

Pike's Atlas of Maps *continued*

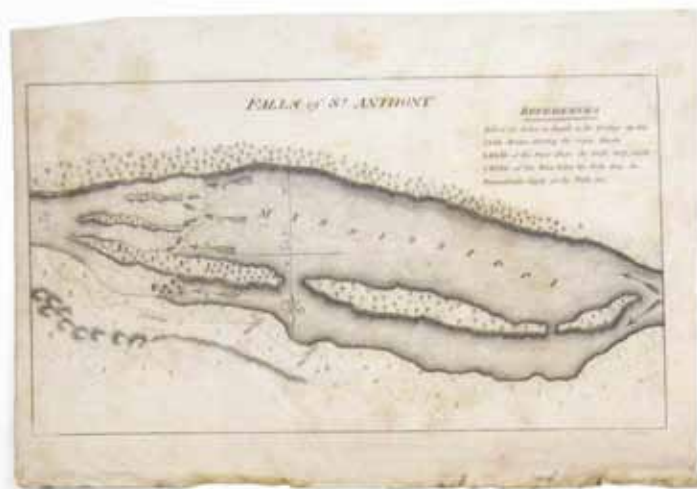
aid in his research when painting *Pike Entering Santa Fe*, which he completed in 1905. The atlas bears Remington's bookplate on the inside front cover.

Maps Acquired and Conserved by GLO as Part of the Atlas

1. *A Map of the Internal Provinces of New Spain*
2. *A Chart of the Internal Part of Louisiana*
3. *The First Part of Captn. Pike's Chart of the Internal Part of Louisiana*
4. *Falls of St. Anthony*
5. *Map of the Mississippi River from its Source to the Mouth of the Missouri*
6. *A Sketch of the Vice Royalty exhibiting the several Provinces Provinces and its Aproximation [sic] to the Internal Provinces of New Spain*



[detail] Anthony Nau, *The First Part of Captn. Pike's Chart of the Internal Part of Louisiana*, Philadelphia, 1810, Map #95154, Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.



Zebulon Pike, *Falls of St. Anthony*, Philadelphia: Lawson, 1810, Map #95152, Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

Pike's atlas was treated by Carrabba Conservation in Austin, TX. Conservation treatment included removing individual maps from the text block, releasing sewing structures, and removing threads. Debris and soils from binding structures were removed from the maps, and adhesive residue was reduced. All of the maps were washed and deacidified with calcium hydroxide, and stains were reduced with the adjusted water bath, ammonium, and calcium. Tears, broken folds, and losses were mended and

Continued on page 12



Anthony Nau, *Map of the Mississippi River from its Source to the Mouth of the Missouri*, Philadelphia: Francis Shallus, 1810, Map #95153, Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

Pike's Atlas of Maps *continued*

filled with wheat starch paste using acid-free tissue paper applied locally. Corners were reinforced, and each map was pressed and flattened under weights.

Pike's maps, along with his journals and official reports, are a lasting legacy of the earliest American explorations of the Southwest, as well as an important part of the cartographic history of Texas. They will be available online and in person at no charge to the public, as well for off-site exhibitions, further study, and reproduction.

About the Save Texas History Program

Created in 2004, the Save Texas History program is a statewide initiative to rally public support and private funding for the preservation and promotion of the historic maps and documents housed in the GLO Archives, and serves as a resource for teaching and digitizing Texas history. If you would like to donate to the Save Texas History program to adopt a document or collection, assist with archival acquisitions, develop educational programs, or support digital projects, please visit SaveTexasHistory.org.

You can follow Save Texas History at

[Facebook.com/SaveTXHistory](https://www.facebook.com/SaveTXHistory) and [Twitter at Twitter.com/SaveTxHistory](https://twitter.com/SaveTxHistory)



Zebulon Pike, A Sketch of the Vice Royalty exhibiting several Provinces and its Approximation [sic] to the Internal Provinces of New Spain, Philadelphia, 1810, Map #95157, Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.



Zebulon Pike, A Chart of the Internal Part of Louisiana, Philadelphia, 1810, Map #95155, Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.



Zebulon Pike, A Map of the Internal Provinces of New Spain, Philadelphia, 1810, Map #95156, Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

Editor's Note: When James sent me this article, he appended this comment, which I thought all of the TMS membership would enjoy reading.

"I'm quite proud of this acquisition because I was the one who figured it out! It went something like this:

"Gee, this Pike character sounds interesting. I don't know much about him. Let's see what we can find." Research, research, research. "Dang, this guy really seemed to cause trouble everywhere he goes. What's this about a map? Wait...San Antonio Valero appears on his map! Do we have that?" Research, research, research. "Turns out Pike was the most influential American to map Texas prior to SFA. I wonder if we can find one of his maps. Look, I found a whole dang atlas! Let's buy it."



Save Texas History Symposium

The 10th annual *Save Texas History* symposium will take place on **September 13-14, 2019** in Austin. The Texas Map Society is one of the sponsors for this event. This year's symposium is titled *X Marks the Spot: New Directions in Texas and Borderlands History*. The symposium will examine Texas borderland exploration, with topics including the earliest maps of the Gulf Coast, sovereign Indian territorial claims, the influence of Stephen F. Austin on mapping Texas, Zebulon Pike's time in Texas, and much more. This exciting weekend of Texas history will feature over 15 speakers at three great locations. Events will be held at the historic Intercontinental | Stephen F. Austin Hotel in downtown Austin, as well as at the General Land Office and Bullock Texas State Museum.

Schedule

Friday, September 13

1:00-6:45 pm (GLO/SFA Building, 1700 Congress Ave)

7:00-9:00 pm (Bullock Museum)

- **1:00-5:00 pm:** Graduate Student Research Showcase: New Directions in Texas and Borderlands History. Included with registration. Graduate students present their new research on Texas and the borderlands. Space is limited.
- **5:15-6:45 pm:** Tours of the GLO Archives and Records & Pioneer Surveying. Visit with staff of the Texas General Land Office to learn about the historic resources available from the oldest state agency in Texas. Additionally, GLO surveyors will discuss pioneer surveying techniques on the frontier.
- **7:00-9:00 pm:** Bullock Museum Reception & Gallery Access-Visit the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum for a relaxing evening with access to 37,000 square feet of exhibition galleries. A great opportunity to visit one of the premier history museums in the country without the crowds.



Image credit: [Cartouche], Nicholas King, *Map of the Mississippi River From its Source to the Mouth of the Missouri: Laid down from the notes of Lieut. Z. M. Pike, by Anthony Nau. Engraved by Francis Shallus, Philadelphia, [1810].*

Saturday, September 14

8:00 am-9:00 pm (Intercontinental | Stephen F. Austin Hotel)

- **8:00-8:30 am:** Registration & Check-in
- **8:30-9:00 am:** Opening Comments
- **9:00-9:45 am:** Dr. Juliana Barr: Mapping Indian Sovereignty in Spanish Archives
- **9:50-10:30 am:** Dr. Gene Smith: "Americans aspire to supremacy over the future republics of the New World": Manifest Destiny and the Adams-Onís Treaty
- **11:00-11:45 am:** Dr. Andrew Torget: Stephen F. Austin Maps Texas
- **12:00-1:00 pm:** Lunch
- **1:00-1:45 pm:** Dr. Jay Buckley-Zebulon Pike and His Contemporaries: Intrigues Surrounding the Exploration and Mapping of Texas, the Southwest, and the Southern Plains
- **1:45-2:30 pm:** Dr. Adrienne Caughfield: Mary Austin Holley's Emigrants' Guide to Texas
- **3:00-3:45 pm:** Dr. Harriett Denise Joseph: Alonso Álvarez de Pineda: Facts versus Fake News
- **3:45-4:30 pm:** Dr. Joaquín Rivaya-Martínez: Remapping la Comanchería: Spanish Cartography and Indigenous Territorialities in the Eighteenth-Century Borderlands
- **4:45-5:15 pm:** Dr. Deborah Liles: Texas Cattle, Texas Railroads, and the Closing of the Frontier
- **7:00-9:00 pm:** Save Texas History Reception
FEATURING H.W. Brands-A Republic Despite Itself: Texas Between Three Empires-\$50

Register online to attend the symposium at the following link:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eg2afm747c847adb&oseq=&c=236d6240-c9cc-11e4-8599-d4ae528eaf6c&ch=247fba0-c9cc-11e4-85e1-d4ae528eaf6c>

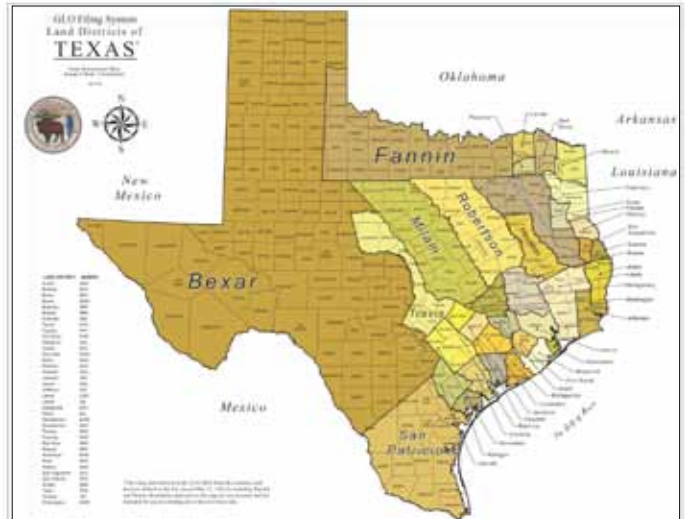
The Land Districts of Texas

By Alex Chiba, GLO Map Vault Team Leader

First-time visitors to the Archives of the Texas General Land Office in Austin are sometimes surprised to learn that the original land grant files are organized by what are referred to as “land districts” instead of by county. What are land districts, and what was the reason for their creation?

When Texas gained independence from Mexico in 1836, one of the first acts passed by Congress on December 22, 1836, created a General Land Office (GLO) “whose duty it shall be to superintend, execute and perform all acts and things touching or respecting the public lands of the republic of Texas.”¹ This law meant it would be the duty of the GLO to validate existing land titles issued by previous governments as well as administer and issue new titles, called patents, for new land grant programs that the Republic of Texas intended to pursue.

To best administer the land grant programs of the Republic, it was crucial to ensure that new surveys did not conflict with



Map showing the GLO filing system Land Districts. These include the two extra “districts” of Panola and Paschal.



O.G. Kurio, *Map of the State of Texas Showing Original Land Districts*, Austin: Texas General Land Office, 1891, Map #73598, Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

old ones. The Republic of Texas began with 23 original counties which were loosely based upon existing municipalities that had been established by Mexico.² The boundaries of these counties were extremely vague and ill-defined, however, and no detailed surveys or maps existed to delineate the lines between these original counties.³ This lack of clarity on county boundaries soon became a problem both for surveyors and the GLO alike as conflicts arose constantly to ascertain in which county land claims were located. John P. Borden, the first Land Commissioner of the GLO, noted this problem in 1838 when he sent letters to various County Surveyors asking them to meet with surveyors of adjoining counties to survey detailed lines between their counties of jurisdiction.⁴

As outlined in the Texas Constitution (Article IV, Sec. 11), new counties could be created by Congress upon the “petition of one hundred free male inhabitants.”⁵ As the population of the Republic grew, new counties were established, including six in 1837 alone.⁶

Continued on page 15

¹ Hans Peter Mareus Neilsen Gammel, *The Laws of Texas, 1822-1897 Volume 1* (Austin: The Gammel Book Company, 1898), 1276.

² Luke Gournay, *Texas Boundaries* (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1995), 29.

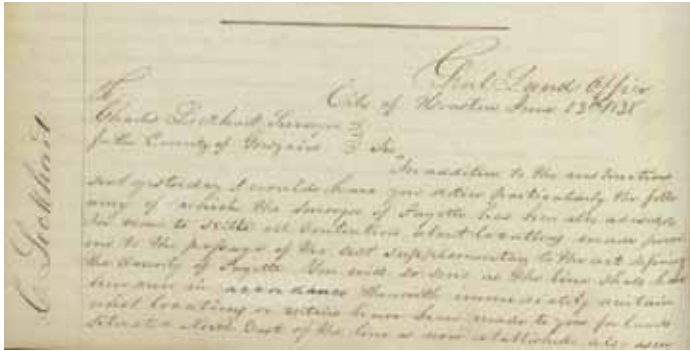
³ Currently, the GLO has not received County Boundary Files for the following counties: Bailey, Brazos, Brown, Burleson, Caldwell, Camp, Cass, Collingsworth, Crockett, Culberson, Delta, Encinal, Grimes, Guadalupe, Hidalgo, Houston, Hudspeth, Madison, Nueces, Panola, Parmer, Red River, Robertson, Rusk, Schleicher, Shelby, Somervell, Stevens, Washington, and Winkler.

⁴ Annual Report – Commissioner John P. Borden, 14 June 1838, [Box 1, Folder 2, pp 6-10](#), Commissioner Reports, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

⁵ Gammel, *The Laws of Texas, 1822-1897 Volume 1*, 1074.

⁶ Gournay, *Texas Boundaries*, 35-39.

Land Districts *continued*



Land Commissioner Borden begins a letter of instruction to Gonzales County Surveyor Charles Lockhart.

The boundaries outlined in these Congressional Acts were vague and since these new counties were carved out from original counties whose boundaries were already hazy, it's easy to imagine the level of chaos the clerks at the GLO and surveyors across Texas were experiencing. From 1838 to 1843, seven more new counties were created,⁷ further exacerbating the problem. John P. Borden, in his 1839 report to Congress,⁸ specifically highlights the problem with the county lines:

*“Another very serious obstacle which prevents surveys from being returned to this office, is the continual conflict arising from the lines of the several counties not being permanently established, many of them being as yet undefined by Special Acts of Congress.”*⁹

Borden resigned as Commissioner in December 1840, and the next Land Commissioner, Thomas William Ward, assumed office in January 1841. Like Borden, Ward points out in each of his reports to Congress the problems arising with the fluid county boundaries. He puts it best in his 1843 report:

*“..lands have been located as being in a certain county and by the surveyor of the county adjoining have been entered as being in the county of which he was surveyor; thus the same land has been located in many instances in two different counties and the field notes of each certified by two different surveyors, to this office, as being a correct location.”*¹⁰

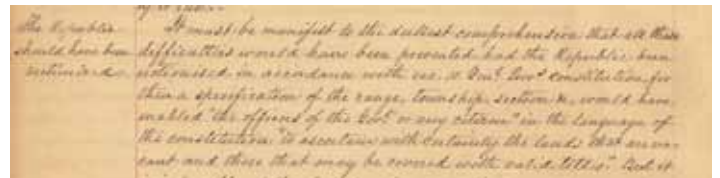
In each of Ward's annual reports, he accurately points out that the Constitution of the Republic (General Provisions, Sec. 10) called for the country to be sectionalized.¹¹ In his view, this meant the creation of a township and range system like that employed by the United States, and that the creation of counties did not meet this Constitutional mandate:

*“It is very obvious that the creation of counties for the purposes of representation is not a compliance with the law directing the Republic to be sectionalized.. In consequence of this state of incertitude in relation to county lines all claims laying on or near what are the probable boundaries of counties, are in litigation, and therefore, no patents can be or have been issued that lay near where the boundaries specified in the several statutes creating county boundaries are likely to run.”*¹²

In Ward's 1844 report to Congress he outlines a possible remedy:

*“To effect this, provision should be made by Congress for a surveyor to establish, according to the directions of the Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office, the boundaries of the existing representative counties, which should remain unchanged until the land titles of this country are permanently settled.”*¹³

It took another 18 months, after Texas' annexation to the United States, for the Texas Legislature to finally act and implement Ward's recommendation. On May 12, 1846, in the act creating the General Land Office of the state of Texas, the law



Ward argued in his 1843 report that the “The Republic should have been sectionalized.”

Continued on page 16

⁷ Gournay, *Texas Boundaries*, 39-43.

⁸ GLO Commissioner Reports have been scanned and are searchable in the [online land grant database](#) by typing Commissioner Report into the “Class” field.

⁹ Annual Report – Commissioner John P. Borden, 23 October 1839, [Box 1, Folder 3, p. 2](#), Commissioner Reports, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

¹⁰ Annual Report – Commissioner Thomas W. Ward, 15 November 1843, [Box 1, Folder 6, p. 11](#), Commissioner Reports, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

¹¹ Gammel, *The Laws of Texas, 1822-1897* Volume 1, [1081](#).

¹² Annual Report – Commissioner Thomas W. Ward, 15 November 1843, [Box 1, Folder 6, p. 11](#), Commissioner Reports, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

¹³ Annual Report – Commissioner Thomas W. Ward, 2 October 1844, [Box 1, Folder 7, p. 34](#), Commissioner Reports, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

Land Districts *continued*

establishes that the 36 counties in existence on February 15, 1846, would be declared “land districts of the State of Texas.”¹⁴ These land districts would then elect a District Surveyor who would have jurisdiction within these land districts regardless if (and when) new counties within the district were created. Surveyors and GLO clerks alike would now be immune to the seemingly ever-shifting boundaries brought about when new counties were created, and thus clarity was brought to the whole land grant and patenting process.

To this day, hundreds of thousands of GLO land grant files are organized by land district, and the file numbers of these documents include a land district prefix as an essential part of the file number. It should be noted that the statute created 36 land districts, but the GLO filing system uses 38 land districts. The GLO includes Panola and Paschal as districts which were not counties on February 15, 1846.

Panola is included because Panola County was established by Congress on March 30, 1846, only six weeks before the passage of the law establishing the land districts.¹⁵ Field notes returned to the GLO between March 30 and May 12, 1846, were thus filed as Panola files.¹⁶ When the law was passed six weeks later, nothing more was filed within this “district,” as the law specified that only counties established as of February 15, 1846, would be considered land districts. Only 13 land grant files can be found filed under the Panola land district at the GLO reflecting this very short timeframe.

The Paschal “land district” exists at the GLO because Paschal was a short-lived judicial county established by an act passed January 28, 1841. Judicial counties were declared unconstitutional in July 1842, but field notes received at the GLO between January 1841 and July 1842 were filed as Paschal files.¹⁶ When the law creating the land districts was passed, it was simply decided to keep these existing files rather than create new ones and risk confusion to already-settled patents.

The establishment of land districts proved to be extremely beneficial to the GLO and everyone else involved in the land grant and patent process. No longer were surveys subject to vague county boundary lines and the numbers of conflicts were reduced drastically. After the establishment of land districts, the GLO proceeded to issue patents at a much faster pace than before, which benefited both the state and its citizens immensely.

GLO Land District Prefix	Land District Name
AUS	Austin
BAS	Bastrop
BEX	Bexar
BOW	Bowie
BRA	Brazoria
BRS	Brazos
COL	Colorado
FAN	Fannin
FAY	Fayette
FOR	Fort Bend
GAL	Galveston
GOL	Goliad
GON	Gonzales
HAR	Harris
HAS	Harrison
HOU	Houston
JAC	Jackson
JAS	Jasper
JEF	Jefferson
LAM	Lamar
LIB	Liberty
MAT	Matagorda
MIL	Milam
MON	Montgomery
NAC	Nacogdoches
PAN*	Panola*
PAS*	Paschal*
RED	Red River
REF	Refugio
ROB	Robertson
RUS	Rusk
SAB	Sabine
SAU	San Augustine
SHE	Shelby
SPA	San Patricio
TRA	Travis
VIC	Victoria
WAS	Washington

*used by the GLO only - not statutory land districts

¹⁴ Hans Peter Marcus Neilsen Gammel, *The Laws of Texas, 1822-1897 Volume 2* (Austin: The Gammel Book Company, 1898), 1540.

¹⁵ Gammel, *The Laws of Texas, 1822-1897 Volume 2*, 1337.

¹⁶ Seymour V. Conner, “Paschal County (Judicial),” *Handbook of Texas Online*, accessed May 17, 2019, <https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hcp52>

The American School Atlases of Jesse Olney

By Walter E. Wilson

This is the seventh installment of a series of articles about American school atlases published between 1835 and 1850. Previous editions have covered Daniel Adams, Thomas Smiley, Richard McAllister Smith, Roswell Chamberlain Smith, William Channing Woodbridge, Conrad Malte-Brun, and Samuel Griswold Goodrich.



Portrait of Jesse Olney (ca 1830) by George Washington Tyler (Courtesy Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco)

Jesse Olney (1798-1872) was one of the most successful and prolific American school atlas authors of his era. Born in Connecticut and educated in Central New York, he returned to Connecticut in 1819 and for twelve years, was the principal of the Stone school in Hartford.

Like many of the authors of school atlases and geographies of the period, Jesse Olney was dissatisfied with the existing text books and methods of teaching geography. His instruction took the child from the near

to the distant and from the concrete to the abstract. Olney's system replaced theoretical geography with practical and descriptive science and used maps to illustrate the natural divisions of land and water.

In 1828, Olney published his first textbook, *A Practical System of Modern Geography*, followed the next year by *A New and Improved School Atlas*. Olney enlarged and revised his geography book through a production run of ninety-eight editions, with some of the editions numbering 80,000 copies, but kept the same title. During Olney's lifetime, the only text book that surpassed the popularity of *Olney's Geography* was *Webster's Spelling-Book*. Olney also published a reader that ran for thirty-five editions, a *History of the United States* with forty-three editions, and other successful books on arithmetic and poetry.

With the success and notoriety gained from his books, Olney became active in politics. He served in the Connecticut legislature for eight terms (1833-1854), and was Connecticut's Controller of Public Accounts for two terms (1867-1868). In his personal life, he married Elizabeth Barnes (1811-1893) of Hartford in 1829 and joined the Unitarian church in 1840. He and Elizabeth had six children. Olney left Hartford in 1833 and settled in Southington until 1854, when he moved to Stratford, Connecticut, where he died in 1872.

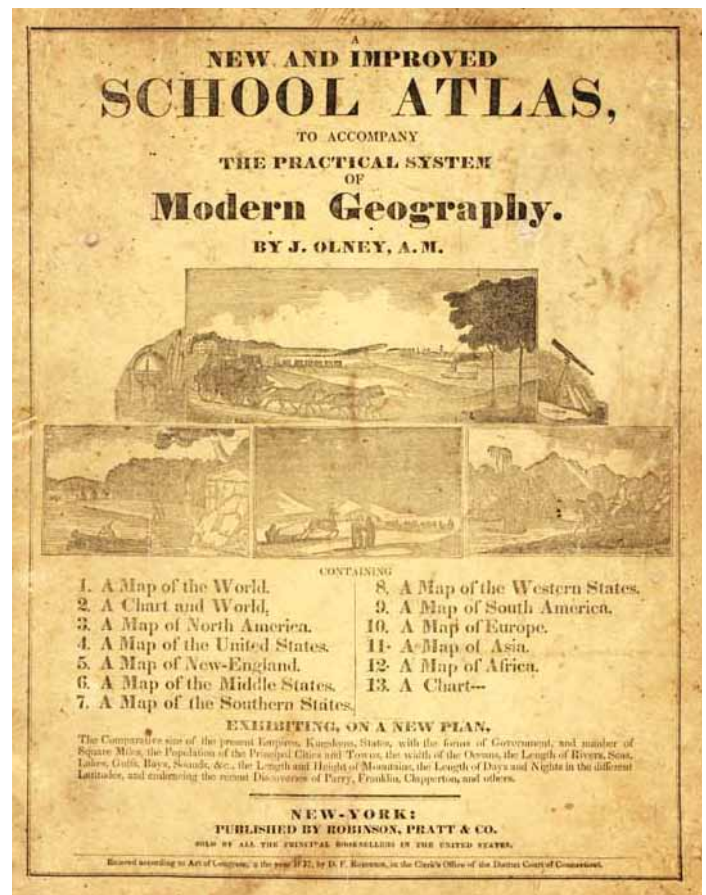
In addition to his geography books, Olney also issued a large number of supporting school atlases that had frequent expansions and revisions. Despite the large production runs, he only had four different atlas titles: *New and Improved School Atlas* (1829 -1837), *Olney's School Atlas* (1841-1859), *Olney's Quarto Geography* (1849), and the *Atlas Comprising Modern and Ancient Geography*

(1857-1866). As with other atlas publishers of his era, he would often revise the content of an atlas without making any changes to the cover or title page. The atlas size was standard for the time, about 11 ¾" x 9 ½". He eventually increased the height of his atlases to 12" in the editions dating from the late 1840s.

Olney's first atlas in the era between 1835 and 1850 was the *New and Improved School Atlas*. The cover has no date or illustrations and the eleven maps (2 double and 9 single page) are all dated the same as the 1831 Hartford edition (1828 and 1829). The publication date is derived from the move of his publishers, Robinson and Pratt, from Hartford to New York in 1835.

The first readily identifiable Olney atlas from this era is the 1837 edition (pictured); it is dated on the cover. It has 12 maps (5 double and 7 single page) and a chart, an increase of one map. The cover also adds four engravings with rustic scenes of a stagecoach, train and steamboat; Native Americans; Arctic dog and deer sleds; and an Arab camel caravan.. The new "Southern States" map labels Miller County in Arkansas. This county encroaches into what is now part of eleven different counties in Northeastern Texas. The territorial dispute about Miller County

Continued on page 18



Olney's *New and Improved School Atlas*, 1837 edition cover

Atlases of Jesse Olney *continued*

between Texas and Arkansas continued until 1845. Arkansas lost her claim when Texas joined the Union.

Like the earlier editions of the atlas, both the U.S. and North America maps show Texas as part of Mexico. With the exception of these two maps that are undated, the other maps all reflect a copyright or “Entered according to Act of Congress” date of 1829. Despite the identical dates, the titles of the 1837 maps are modified with shaded or decorative borders and an “Explanation of Population” key for cities.

Olney’s next major revision came in 1841. Although this atlas still has 12 maps and a chart and all the maps remain dated 1828 or 1829, he redesigned the cover and renamed it “Olney’s School Atlas” (pictured). This name and design of the covers remain essentially unchanged throughout the decade. Several of the maps within the atlas also received updates. He removed the boxes around most of the titles and changed the fonts from outline to solid, e.g., from “UNITED STATES” to “UNITED STATES.” He also added the phrase “Map of the ...” to the map titles. Another general change was the addition of comparative latitudes at the eastern and western margins of all but the world maps.

“The Map of North America” (pictured) shows Texas as a Republic, and adds the cities of Austin and San Felipe, and inserts sailing ships on the oceans. The double-page “Map of the United

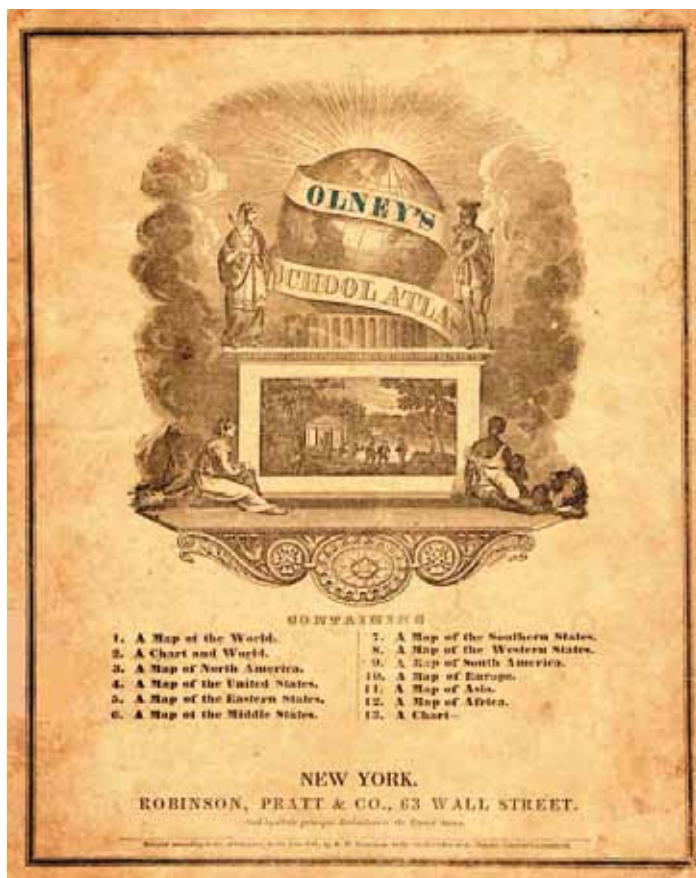


Map of North America, 1841 edition

States” (pictured) shows Texas as an independent nation and adds the annotation “Texas was declared independent of Mexico in 1836.”

In 1844, Olney issued his fourth major School Atlas revision of the era. Using the same cover design as in 1841, the atlas lists 21 separate maps and reflects the change in his publisher’s name From Robinson & Pratt to Pratt, Woodford, and Co. Olney increased the number of maps by adding smaller map inserts and creating double-page maps of the “South-Western States”, Asia, and Europe. All of the plates (8 double-page and 6 single) are now

Continued on page 19



Olney’s School Atlas, 1841 edition cover (12 maps +1 chart)

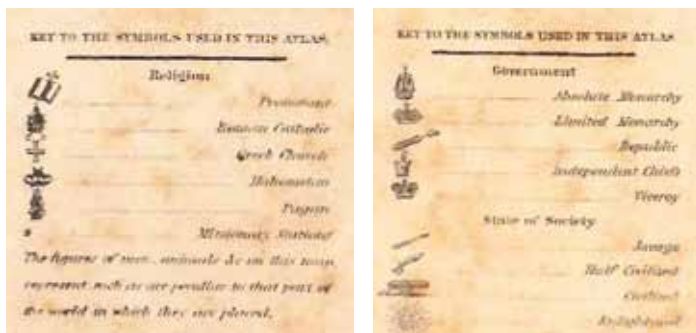


Map of North America, 1841 edition

Atlases of Jesse Olney *continued*

dated 1844. The maps also add symbols reflecting the religion, type of government, and state of society for each country.

Specific map changes in the 1844 (21-map) edition, include the combination of the two world maps onto a single double-page “World Map” and Texas is labeled as a republic with Austin as its capital. At the bottom of the page are two keys for deciphering the symbols that characterize each country (pictured). On the “Map of North America,” (pictured) the boundaries of Texas are slightly revised to include a portion of the panhandle, and it adds the cities of Houston and Nacogdoches. “S. Antonio” is now labeled as “San Antonio de Bexar.” The symbols show Texas to be an enlightened republic, with no indication of religious affiliation.



6a Religion Key & 6b Government and State of Society Key both 1841 and later



Map of North America, 1844 (21-map) edition



Map of the United States, Canada, Texas & part of Mexico, 1844 (21-map) edition

The 1844 “Map of the United States” adds “Canada, Texas, & Part of Mexico” to the title (pictured). It depicts an enlarged Texas with its southern boundary at the “Rio Grand of the North,” but its western border with Mexico is just east of the Rio “Puerco” (Pecos River). The map’s previous notation about independence is gone, but it adds the following “This desert is traversed by numerous herds of Buffaloes and wild Horses, and inhabited by roving tribes of Indians.”

The new map of the “South-Western and part of the Western States” includes the eastern third of Texas. One of the labeled Texas counties is Spring Creek that was established for judicial and other purposes on January 21, 1841, but the Texas Supreme Court abolished the county in 1842. The “Map of Africa” has an interesting inset map of “Liberia and Sierra Leone” that identifies several freed slave settlements including the Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Maryland colonies.

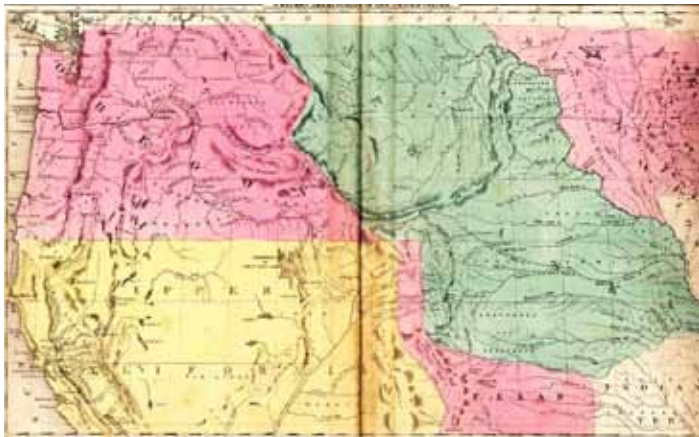
The next five Olney School Atlases are all dated 1844 on the cover, but have additional maps and internal variations. The first was issued in about 1845 and contains 23 maps. The two new maps are a double-page map of the “Roman Empire” with an inset of the “Southern Part of Greece.” The publisher is the same, Pratt, Woodford and Co., at its 82 Wall Street address in New York. The other maps in 23-map edition are identical to those found in the previous one, except that Texas is colored as part of the United States in the “Map of North America.”

Another 23-map edition has the same maps, but the cover omits a street address. In 1847, Pratt, Woodford and Co. moved to another New York location and it stopped including an address on the cover after its move from 82 Wall Street. This 1847 atlas is identical to the 1845-1846 edition except that it colors Texas as part of the United States on the “Map of North America.”

A 24-map edition appeared in 1847. The insertion of a new #10 map of the “Western Territories of the United States” (pictured) is the only one that is dated 1847. There are a number of changes to other maps even though the copyright dates remain static. The

Continued on page 20

Atlases of Jesse Olney *continued*



Western Territories of the United States, 1844 (21-map) and later editions

“Map of North America” now reflects the modern boundary with Canada that resulted from an 1846 treaty with the United Kingdom that settled the Oregon Territory’s border dispute.

The map of the United States from the 24-map atlas (pictured) deletes mention of Texas in its title in recognition the former republic’s inclusion into the U.S. It also removes the distance table that had covered a large area of the West and adds large “Minnesota” and Nebraska Territories. Like the “Map of North America,” the Oregon boundary reflects the 1846 treaty and Texas is depicted in its large stovepipe configuration.

In 1849, Olney added a separate, single-page map of Texas to the *School Atlas* to reach a total of 25. He also added 4-7 pages of tabular data. The pages are titled “General and Comparative Views.” The “Map of the United States Canada and a Part of Mexico” (pictured) also still has the 1844 date. It has been updated to show Upper California as part of the U.S. and the spelling of Minnesota has been changed to “Minesota”.

The major change to the 25-map atlas is the addition of new map #10 “Map of Texas” (pictured). This map is dated 1849, and shows the entire state in the large stovepipe configuration. This version of Texas is a relatively rare Olney map. It must



Map of the United States, Canada and part of Mexico, 1849 (25-map) edition



Map of Texas, 1849 (25-map) “stovepipe” edition

have been unpopular since it was replaced with a different Texas map in subsequent editions that have no other changes. Like its predecessor, the updated “Map of Texas” (pictured) also depicts the counties as of 1848, but it is undated and cuts off part of West Texas and the panhandle. Other than minor coloring variations, there appear to be no other changes to the other maps in the 25-map atlas.



Map of the United States, Canada and part of Mexico, 1847 (24-map) edition

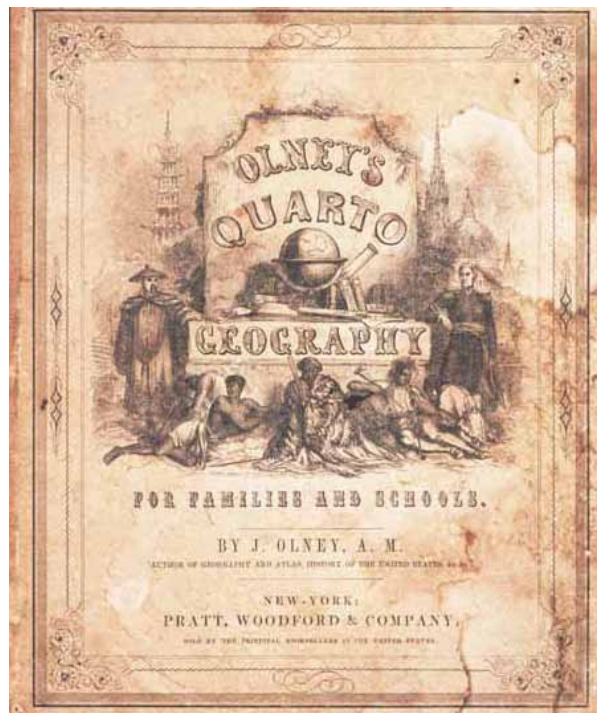
Continued on page 21

Atlases of Jesse Olney *continued*



Map of Texas, 1849 (25-map) revised edit

The final Olney atlas of the period was his 1849 *Quarto Geography for Families and Schools* (pictured). Once again published by Pratt, Woodford & Company, this Olney atlas



Olney's *Quarto Geography*, 1849 edition cover

mimicked competitors like Samuel Mitchell, Sidney Morse, and Roswell Smith. They were producing similar works that combined textual geography lessons with maps, and had printing on both sides of the page. Olney's *Quarto Geography* ran for 70 pages and listed a total of 27 maps in the table of contents, not including an additional six uncolored city maps on the frontis page.

The most interesting new map introduced in the atlas is an undated map of "Oregon, Upper California, Texas, Mexico, West Indies" (pictured). In addition to picturing a large Texas with a western border that extends west of the "Rio Grand del Norte," it has an inset that shows the "Gold Region of California."



Oregon, Upper California, Texas, Mexico, Guatemala, West Indies and inset of the Gold Region of California, *Quarto Geography*

Olney's *Quarto Geography* provides the clearest examples of his cultural bias. Although his *School Atlas* map annotations have hints of the assumptions of his era, the *Quarto Geography* gives voice to them. It describes the "European race" as the "... most civilized and enlightened, noted for physical and intellectual power. It has taken the lead in civilization and refinement, in the arts and sciences, and seems destined ultimately to rule or improve the condition of all the other races." Savage cultures are "generally blood thirsty and revengeful, as the American Indians." In his description of Texas, Olney does give the Comanche credit for being "brave and active, expert with the bow and arrow, and the best horsemen in the world."

Olney's "Half civilized" men are "sometimes pastoral, nomads, or live by piracy and robbery, as the Arabs and Malays." The "Civilized men," like the Chinese and Japanese, live by "agriculture, manufacturing, and commerce, and are acquainted with the arts and sciences." Aaaah, but the "Enlightened" men like those found in United States, England, France (and Texas) are "... noted for intelligence, industry and enterprise. The arts

Continued on page 22

Atlases of Jesse Olney *continued*

and sciences are carried to a high degree of perfection, and all the arrangements of society are in a highly improved form.”

It is instructive to see how Olney’s “scientific” views mesh nicely within the contemporary social, economic, and geo-political perspectives. He helped young Americans visualize and understand their manifest destiny. School books like this supported the notion that it was the nation’s duty and calling to lead the savage and half-civilized inhabitants of the North American continent, and the rest of the world for that matter, into enlightenment and a better life.

Although the theme of this series of articles is American school atlases and the men who wrote and published them, there is another aspect of these otherwise impersonal textbooks: the boys and girls who used them. A note found in one of these Olney atlases help bring it to life. It is a beautifully printed Victorian-era card that reads “Reward of Merit” (pictured). It had been presented to Lizzie Hammond by her teacher S.P. Hammond. Lizzie no doubt received it in recognition of her sterling mastery of the geographic material found within those now-musty pages.

School atlases like Lizzie’s were well-used and often handed down among siblings, cousins, and friends over many years. As a result, American school atlases are rarely found in fine condition or with clean pages. Like most school atlases, Olney’s maps are blank on the verso. They provided a ready canvas for students to add their doodles, sketches, and practice variations signing their names. These signatures can be a valuable resource that allow curious researchers to track down information about the owner(s). This is particularly true when the name is accompanied by a date and location of the student’s home or school. One such example is found in one of the 23-map editions of *Olney’s School Atlas* mentioned in this article.

A young man signed his name on the blank pages numerous times, sometimes as “E.M.” and others as “Elhanan M. Mast.” He also added several dates between 1848, when he was a student, and 1859, when he was a young adult, and the location “Champaign County, Ohio.” Another signature, “J.M. Maitland,” appears twice in this atlas, once with a date “November 27th, 1858” and another time with a location, “Kingston, Champaign County, Ohio.”



Reward of Merit Presented to Lizzie Hammond by her teacher S. P. Hammond, found inside an 1844 (23-map) edition of *Olney’s School Atlas*

According to U.S. Census records, Elhanan Milton Mast (1832-1863) was living in Kingston, Champaign County, Ohio in 1860 and working as an attorney. Elhanan probably loaned the book to his nephew, Joseph Mast Maitland (1838-1918), who was also living in Salem Township and working there as a school teacher.

The two young men were pursuing their livelihoods as a lawyer and educator until the Civil War intervened. On June 1st, 1861, Elhanan enlisted in the U.S. Army as the Captain of Company C, of the 13th Ohio Infantry. Joseph Maitland followed his uncle into the army, enlisting as a private in August of 1862. Joseph rose to the rank of sergeant with Company G of the 95th Ohio Infantry before being mustered out of the service at the end of the war. He then returned to Kingston, married and provided a home for his widowed mother.

Elhanan Mast’s story was more tragic. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on January 1, 1863 and placed in command of the 13th Ohio Regiment. In September, Lt. Col. Mast’s regiment was with the Army of the Cumberland in northwest Georgia. The ensuing Battle of Chickamauga, named after a nearby creek, was a Union defeat. There were over 34,000 casualties in the two days of bloody fighting. One of them was Elhanan Milton Mast. He was killed on the first day of the battle while encouraging his men of the 13th Ohio to hold their ground. His copy of *Olney’s School Atlas* depicted, but did not label, the place where he died. His innocent signature, however, remains.

In a final note that provides another brief glimpse into the owner of a different 23-map *Olney School Atlas*, is this poem that was written on a blank page:

“Ann B. Cranston’s Atlas, 1848
Steal not this book for fear of shame,
For here you see the owner’s name,
For when you die the Lord will say,
Where is the book you took away?”

For additional reading see: Caryn Hannan, (ed.), *Connecticut Biographical Dictionary* (Hamburg, MI: 2008); Jeffrey C. Patton, “The American School Atlas: 1784 – 1900,” *Cartographic Perspectives* 33 (Spring 1999): 4-32; Hartford *Daily Courant*, Aug. 1, 1872; *Handbook of Texas Online*, Seymour V. Connor, “MILLER COUNTY, ARKANSAS,” and Andrew Forest Muir, “SPRING CREEK COUNTY,” accessed August 03, 2019, (tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hcm91 and [hcs52](http://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hcs52)); UT Arlington, *Compass Rose* Vol. XIII, No. 1 (Spring 1999); Olney, James H., “A Genealogy of the Descendants of Thomas Olney, an Original Proprietor of Providence, R. I., Who Came From England in 1635” (Providence, RI; privately published, 1889); genealogy.com; Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps (raremaps.com); famousamericans.net/jesseolney/; politicalgraveyard.com; infoplease.com; Oldworldauctions.com; Blog by “Griff” (sparedshare7.wordpress.com).

Continued on page 23

Atlases of Jesse Olney *continued*

Name	Date	City, State	Address
David F. Robinson & Co.	1829 - 1833	Hartford, CT	4 State St.
Robinson & Pratt	1834	Hartford, CT	4 State St.
Robinson, Pratt & Co.	1835 - 1836	New York, NY*	259 Pearl St.
Robinson, Pratt & Co.	1837 - 1843	New York, NY	63 Wall St.
Pratt, Woodford & Co.	1844	New York, NY	63 Wall St.
Pratt, Woodford & Co.	1845 - 1846	New York, NY	82 Wall St.
Pratt, Woodford & Co.	1847 - 1848	New York, NY	159 Pearl St.
Pratt, Woodford & Co.	1849	New York, NY	161 Pearl St.
Pratt, Woodford & Co.	1850 - 1854	New York, NY	4 Cortlandt St.

The table on the left lists the publishing houses for Olney's early school atlases:

* Note: The publishing house moved to New York 1835, but also published in Hartford at least through 1839.

The table below provides a summary of the different Olney Atlas covers and editions that appeared between 1835 and 1850.

Title & Publisher	Date	No. Maps	Map Titles
New and Improved School Atlas to Accompany The Practical System of Modern Geography New York: Robinson, Pratt & Co.	1835	11 + 1	1.World 2.Chart & World 3.North America 4.United States 5.New-England 6.Middle States and Part of the Southern States 7.Western States 8.South America 9.Europe 10.Asia 11.Africa 12.A Chart
New and Improved School Atlas to Accompany The Practical System of Modern Geography New York: Robinson, Pratt & Co.	1837	12+1	Same as above but inserts new maps of the 6.Middle States and 7.Southern States and renumbers the remainder
Olney's School Atlas New York: Pratt, Woodford & Co. 63 Wall St.	1841	12 + 1	Same as above
Olney's School Atlas New York: Pratt, Woodford & Co. 63 Wall St.	1844	21	1.The World on a Globular Projection 2.The World on a Polar Projection 3.North America 4.United States, Canada, Texas and part of Mexico 5.New England and New York 6.Central States 7.Southern States 8.South-Western and part of the Western States 9.Michigan, Wisconsin, and part of Iowa 10.West Indies, Guatemala, and part of Mexico 11.New Brunswick and Nova Scotia 12.Newfoundland 13. South America 14.Europe 15.Central Europe 16.British Isles 17.Shetland Isles 18.Asia 19.Palestine 20.Africa 21.Libera and Sierra Leone
Olney's School Atlas New York: Pratt, Woodford & Co. 82 Wall St.	1845	23	Same as above plus: 22.Roman Empire and 23.Southern part of Greece
Olney's School Atlas New York: Pratt, Woodford & Co.	1847	23	Same as above #3 North America with TX as colored as part of U.S.
Olney's School Atlas New York: Pratt, Woodford & Co.	1847	24	Same as above except new map #10. Western Territories of the United States. The cover renumbers the remaining maps
Olney's School Atlas New York: Pratt, Woodford & Co.	1849	25	Same as above except new map #10 Texas The cover renumbers the remaining maps
Olney's Quarto Geography for Families and Schools New York: Pratt, Woodford & Co.	1849	27	1.Western Hemisphere 2.North America 3.United States Canada 4.Maine, New Hampshire, &c 5.Massachusetts, Connecticut, &c 6.Middle States (2 copies) 7.District of Columbia 8.Georgia, Florida, and Alabama 9.Louisiana, Texas, and Arkansas 10.Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, &c 11.Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, &c 12.Territories, Mexico, West Indies, &c 13.South America 14.Atlantic Ocean 15.Eastern Hemisphere 16.Europe 17.Western Europe 18.Asia 19.Western Asia 20.Africa 21.The World 22.Portland 23.Boston 24.New York 25.Philadelphia and Trenton 26.Baltimore & Washington 27.Charleston

Mapping Texas: A Cartographic Journey, 1561-1860

John S. Wilson, with Sierra M. Wilson and Rachel DeShong

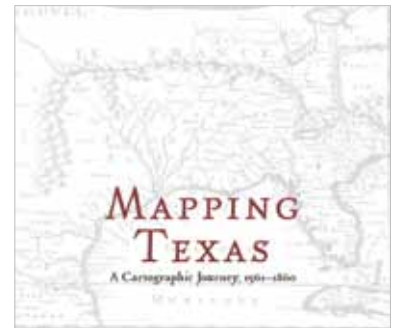
ISBN 9781481311816 • \$39.95, 14 in x 12 in • Available October 15th

3,822 perimeter miles. 11,247 rivers and streams. 8,749 feet at its height. 268,596 square miles in total. Texas is big. Julius Caesar once quipped that all of ancient Gaul could be divided up into three parts. Texas resists such easy division.

Mapping Texas, edited by John S. Wilson, presents an array of early maps, dating from 1561 to 1860. The volume features selections from the extensive material housed in the Frances C. Poage Map Room of The Texas Collection at Baylor University. The painstaking labors of Spanish, French, English, and Mexican mapmakers illustrate the progressive and differing views of Texas geography and boundaries. Originally used as guides to new destinations, these maps also staked new claims, fueled by new dreams, on new territory that settlers had heard about but never seen.

Page by page, Texas' iconic shape gradually emerges. As now-familiar cities dot this vast expanse of land, railroads trace the outline of rivers and mountain ranges, and ports anchor the curve of the Gulf of Mexico, Texas' rich history comes to life one map at a time. The volume concludes with an analysis of map art and cartouches—beautiful images that both name the map and highlight flora and fauna.

A sumptuous delight for mind and eye, this volume lavishly documents the early outlines of the land over which six flags have proudly flown.



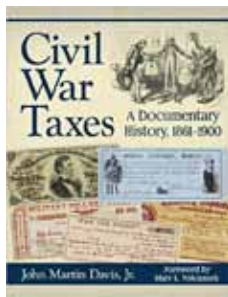
Use code **17SAND** for **30%** and free shipping on your pre-order.

Civil War Taxes, a New Book by Marty Davis

TMS former president Marty Davis has written a new book, *Civil War Taxes, A Documentary History* which is now available for purchase. It is an 8.5 x 11 inch, 173 page softcover volume which is now available for purchase.

The publisher, McFarland Books, shared the following information on its website at

<https://mcfarlandbooks.com/product/civil-war-taxes/>



During the Civil War, both the North and South were challenged by fiscal and monetary needs, but physical differences such as gold reserves, industrialization and the blockade largely predicted the war's outcome from the onset.

To raise revenue for the war effort, every possible person, business, activity and property was assessed, but projections and collections were seldom up to expectations, and waste, fraud and ineffectiveness in the administration of the tax systems plagued both sides.

This economic history uses forensic examination of actual documents to discover the various taxes that developed from the Civil War, including the direct and poll taxes, which were dropped; the income tax, which stands today; and the war tax, which was effective for only a short time.

In the foreword to the book, Mary Volcansek states:

“History does not repeat itself, contrary to the old adage. History is, however, instructive. Politicians, policy makers and political scientists would do well to understand the intricacies and pitfalls of revenue-raising schemes used in emergency times like the Civil War.”

2019 North Texas Book & Map Show

By Michael Utt
President, Texas Booksellers Association

Saturday, September 14

10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Sunday, September 15

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Masonic Temple 1100 Henderson Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

\$8.00 Ticket good for both days

Free Parking

Appraisals

10:00 am – 12:00 pm Saturday

Free appraisals, limit 3 items

This year we are featuring Latino Authors, present for book sales and signing. Visit www.TexasBooksellers.org for author listings and times.

There are plans underway for a table representing the Texas Map Society at the show to promote the Fall TMS meeting in Alpine the week after the book fair.



TMS Officers and Board Members

OFFICERS (2017-2018)

President

Brenda McClurkin
Weatherford, TX
mcclurkin@uta.edu

Second Vice President

James Harkins
Austin, TX
james.harkins@glo.texas.gov

Treasurer

Lynne Starnes
Dallas, TX
info@summerlee.org

First Vice President

Ann Hodges
Fort Worth, TX
ann.hodges@tcu.edu

Secretary

Ben Huseman
Carrollton, TX
huseman@uta.edu

BOARD MEMBERS (2017-2019)

Mylynka Cardona
Commerce, TX
Mylynka.Cardona@tamuc.edu

David Finfrock
Cedar Hill, TX
editortms@aol.com

John M. Parker
Plano, TX
jparkermdpa@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBERS (2018-2020)

Stephanie Miller
Arlington, TX
semiller1960@gmail.com

Bill Stallings
Irving, TX
wbstallings@aol.com

Jim Tiller
New Braunfels, TX
jimtiller@shsu.edu

BOARD MEMBERS (2019-2021)

Royd Riddell
Dallas, TX
map@airmail.net

Morgan Gieringer
Denton, TX
Morgan.Gieringer@unt.edu

Walt Wilson
San Antonio, TX
Texaswalt@yahoo.com

NON-ELECTED POSITIONS

Editor, *The Neatline*

David Finfrock
Cedar Hill, TX
editortms@aol.com

Webmaster

James Harkins
Austin, TX
james.harkins@glo.texas.gov

Advisor (Ex Officio)

Stuart Gleichenhaus
Dallas, TX
stuart@ferngl.com

Texas Map Society Mission

The mission of the organization is: "The Texas Map Society supports and promotes map collecting, cartography, and the study of cartographic history." According to the "Who We Are" section of the website, which is language that came from the previous web page: "The Texas Map Society was organized in November 1996 to foster the study, understanding, preservation, restoration, and collection of historical maps as well as the general history of cartography. Membership only requires an interest in maps of any nature or focus. Members participate in special events and programs. TMS is one of only a few such societies in the United States and the only one in Texas."

Please help us keep our signals straight! Send updates of your contact information (email address & physical address) to



huseman@uta.edu or to

Ben Huseman

Secretary, Texas Map Society
c/o Cartographic Archivist
UT Arlington Library
Special Collections • Box 19497
702 Planetarium Place
Arlington, Texas 76019-0497

Phone: 817 272-0633 • FAX: 817 272-3360

TMS Treasurer

Our TMS Treasurer, **Lynne Starnes**, will be retiring from the Summerlee Foundation next year. As a result, she will be vacating her post as treasurer at the end of 2019. We congratulate her and thank her for her years of service to Texas Map Society, keeping our finances and membership information in great order! We do need someone to step into this role, preferably a person who has had experience working with financial and membership records in a similar organization in the past. If you are interested in serving TMS in this capacity, please contact Ann Hodges

ann.hodges@tcu.edu.

Spring and Fall 2020 Meetings

James Harkins and **Mylynka Cardona** are planning our Spring 2020 meeting in Houston! Tentative dates for Houston are May 28-30. Our Fall 2020 meeting will again be at UT Arlington in Virginia Garrett Lectures. This will be a joint meeting with the International Cartographic Association and will have a bit different format than before. Stay tuned for more information on both meetings!