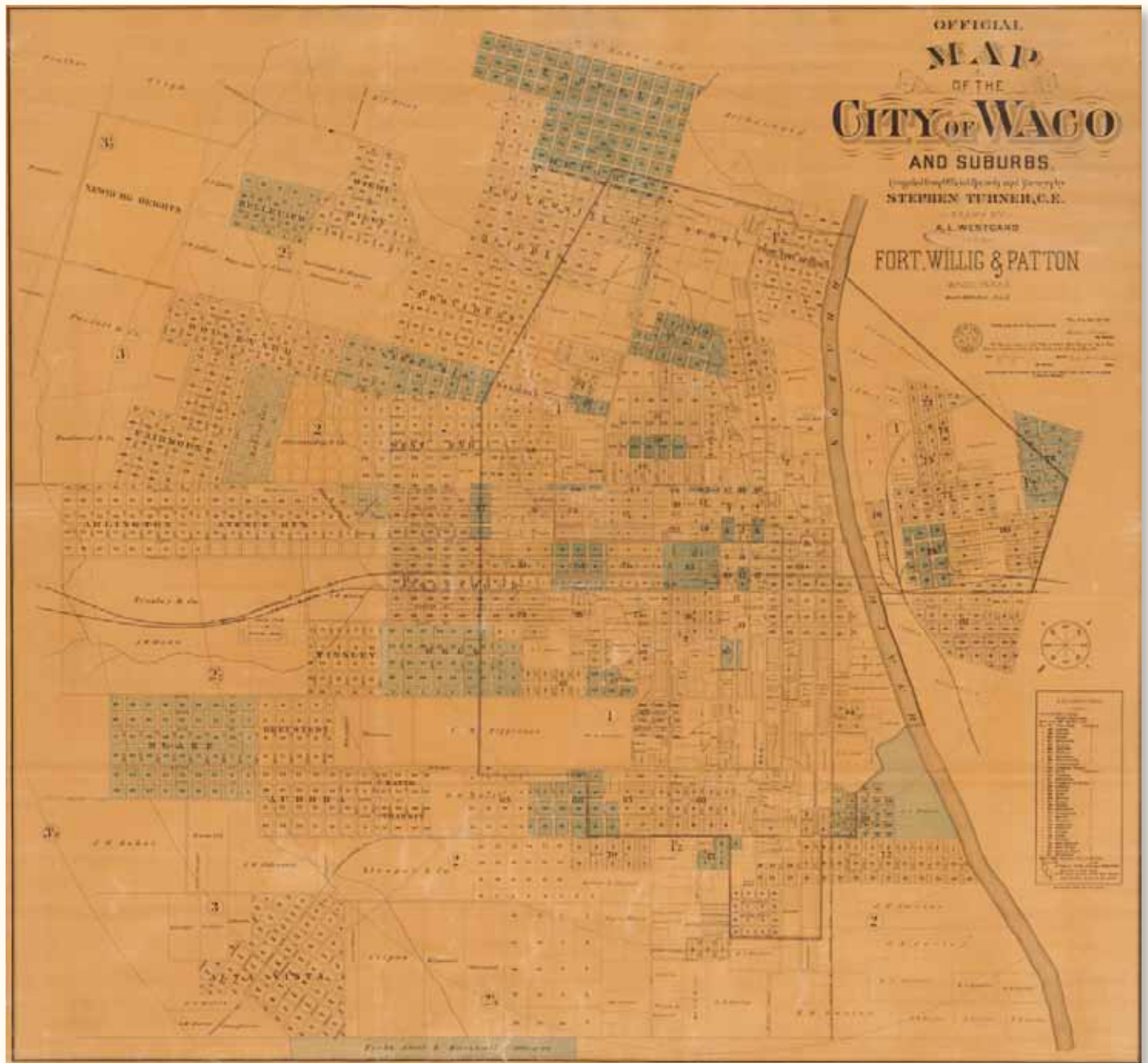


The NEATLINE

A NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS MAP SOCIETY

Fall 2020

The Texas Map Society is Going Virtual!



Official map of the city of Waco and Suburbs (1891). Room 201 (31263030926304), The Texas Collection, Baylor University.

For more information about the 2021 Spring Meeting, please see page 4.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

September has always been my favorite month. It is a time for new beginnings – school starting and in my native Arizona... hope that the hot, hot summers would soon be behind us. From our current vantage point, September 2020 appears to be yielding cooler temperatures and thankfully, more optimistic news regarding the spread of the COVID-19 virus. I sincerely hope that this message finds you all in good health and good spirits as we continue to navigate the pandemic.



The TMS Board met virtually on June 23 and discussed a variety of agenda items. The primary topics were dues for 2020 and the scheduling of upcoming meetings.

- It was decided to go ahead and send out mid-year 2020 dues notices in July. Thank you to so many who have renewed your dues this year through the TMS website membership page: <https://texasmapsociety.org/membership/>. Understanding 2020 has been one of hardship for many, no one will be purged from our membership list this year. We value every member of the Texas Map Society and thank you for your continued membership.
- A TMS member survey was prepared to gather thoughts from our membership about TMS programming. A link to the survey is provided elsewhere in this edition of *The Neatline*. If you have not already done so, please share your thoughts with us!

- In light of current circumstances, the Virginia Garrett Lectures Planning Committee has postponed the 2020 lecture series to September 30-October 2, 2021. This will still be a joint meeting with the ICA Commission on the History of Cartography. The theme continues to be “*Coordinating Cartographic Collections*” with an emphasis on map collectors and collections. A field trip to the Amon Carter Museum Conservation Lab is a small group pre-conference option. Programming is not yet finalized, but the current line-up of speakers include Jack Franke, Imre Demhardt, Gerald Saxon, Barry Ruderman, and Leah McCurdy. The Board also decided not to hold a traditional Fall 2020 TMS meeting.

We will be holding a virtual annual business meeting in late October or early November to elect our new officers and board members, and to take care of any necessary TMS business. We will send further details at a later date.

The Spring 2021 TMS meeting will be hosted by the Baylor University Texas Collection in mid-April. This will be a virtual meeting, but one with many opportunities to “see” the sights of Waco. I want to thank Rachel DeShong and Amie Oliver for all the innovative ideas they are incorporating to our TMS meeting to make this such a memorable event. Put it on your calendar!

Our world has certainly changed in the past six months. Please continue to know that your Texas Map Society colleagues care about each of you. Stay safe, stay strong... we are all in this together and we will get through it.

- Brenda McClurkin, President

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Texas Map Society members and others who helped produce this issue are: Imre Demhardt, Rachel DeShong, Davey Edwards, David Finrock, James Harkins, Ben Huseman, Brenda McClurkin, Amie Oliver, Walt Wilson, the staff of the GLO, and our graphics 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.

TMS Leadership Opportunities

The Nominating Committee, chaired by James Harkins, is still putting the slate of 2021 TMS officers and board members together. We are in particular need of individuals to serve as TMS Secretary and as TMS Treasurer. If you are interested in serving in TMS leadership, please contact [James Harkins](#) or [Brenda McClurkin](#) for more information.



FROM THE EDITOR

We were all very disappointed that the TMS spring meeting in Houston had to be canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. So there is obviously no recap of the spring meeting in this edition of *The Neatline*. And of course, the Virginia Garrett Lectures has been postponed and rescheduled for the fall of 2021. But we are all looking ahead to a virtual meeting next spring in Waco. You can read more about that on page 4.

I was also disappointed to hear that the Save Texas History Symposium, which we generally promote here in *The Neatline*, has also been canceled. I received this note from the GLO:

“Due to continued social distancing recommendations, and out of an abundance of caution for our supporters and staff, we will not be hosting the 11th Annual Save Texas History Symposium this September. This is disappointing, but we hope you understand.

We are working on other Texas history content that you can enjoy from home.

Thank you for understanding.

Sincerely,

Texas General Land Office Archives and Records Staff”

In this time of restrictions on public interactions, I realize that I am very fortunate to have two places for social distancing: at home in Cedar Hill and also at my ranch. While the ranch is a wonderful escape in the spring, it is not quite as much fun, or as beautiful, in the summertime heat and drought. These two “before and after” photos tell the tale:

Always remember that all of the archived editions of *The Neatline*, and much more information on the Texas Map Society can always be found at our website at: www.TexasMapSociety.org

- David Finrock, Editor of *The Neatline*



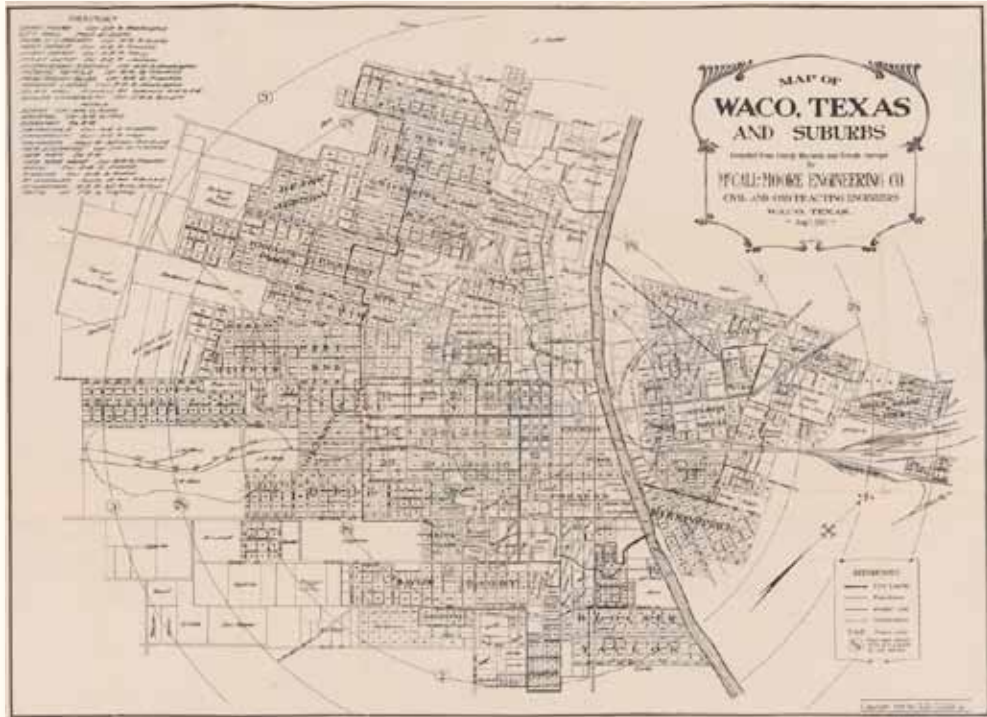
We Want to Hear From You! – Member Survey

We have prepared a short survey (15 questions) seeking your thoughts on TMS programming and your membership experience. Information gathered from the survey will help guide your TMS Board as we plan for the future. To take the survey:

<http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07eh7guc96kcqa89ed/start>

TMS Going Virtual

The Texas Map Society is pleased to announce that The Texas Collection at Baylor University will be hosting the Spring 2021 meeting. Out of concern for all participants, the meeting will be virtual. While not ideal, a virtual meeting will still give everyone the opportunity to socialize and learn more about maps. Planned for mid-April, the tentative theme is **Innovation in Cartography**. If you would like to submit a presentation idea, email Rachel DeShong at: Rachel_DeShong@baylor.edu
Be on the lookout for more information in the coming months.



Map of Waco, Texas and Suburbs (1913). Drawer 69 Folder 5 (31263030915810), The Texas Collection, Baylor University.



Waco, Tex.: County seat of McLennan Co. (1886). Drawer 145 Folder 7 (31263030919200), The Texas Collection, Baylor University.

MY FAVORITE MAP

Snows of the Kilimanjaro and a Gargantuan Lake

By Imre Josef Demhardt

Jenkins and Virginia Garrett Chair in History of Cartography
University of Texas at Arlington
demhardt@uta.edu

When paging through the dictionaries on discoveries one notices how significantly Christian missionaries contributed towards the progress of exploration. Although linked to explorations since medieval ages, these very special discoverers received a new impetus at the turn from the eighteenth to the nineteenth century through the emergence of Protestant mission societies. Soon after the Anglican Church Missionary Society (1799), whose best-known missionary was David Livingstone, protestant mission societies soon formed in other European countries: e.g. 1815 the *Evangelische Missionsgesellschaft in Basel* and 1818 the *Rheinische Missionsgesellschaft* in Wuppertal (German language realm) and 1822 the *Société des missions évangéliques de Paris* (French language realm). While a large number of explorers emerged from this Protestant milieu almost instantaneously, the modern Catholic mission only (re-)organized in the second half of the nineteenth century (Isichei 1995).

In contrast to 'secular' explorers, most missionaries – with the prominent exception of David Livingstone – were not primarily driven by the desire to discover but the Christian mission. The world had to be unveiled in order to bring the word of God to its most remote corners. Against this functional background, missionaries considered it not only their duty to spread the gospel but also to find out about routes, places and languages spoken so that subsequent messengers of faith would save time and effort they could put to a better use in actual mission work. In the last, journeys of discovery for missionaries were just one other means to the holy purpose.



Fig. 1: Johann Krapf

In Germany a fertile ground for Protestant missionaries was the small southwestern Kingdom of Württemberg. Here Johann Krapf (1810-81, Fig. 1) was born into a wealthy Lutheran farming family. Like many of his generation, he was enthusiastic about his faith as well as the reports on distant countries and cultures. In 1837, he went out on his first missionary stint to the Muslim region

of Galla to the south of Ethiopia, but after little success returned in 1841. In January 1844, however, Krapf in the service of the London Missionary Society arrived on the East African island of Zanzibar. There he received permission from the Sultan to begin missionary work on the predominantly Muslim mainland coast of his empire.

Already upon his arrival, Krapf heard about very high mountains in the interior. But only once fellow Württemberg missionary Johannes Rebmann (1820-76, Fig. 2) in 1846 had joined him at the newly founded mission station Rabai Mpya, about twenty kilometers northwest of the port Mombasa, tending to the station and the London desire to expand the missionary work could be matched in such a way that young Rebmann



Fig. 2: Johannes Rebmann

in April 1848 left on an exploration caravan into the hinterland. Just two weeks later, on May 11, he was the first documented European to see a tall white topped mountain from a distance: *"In the middle of a large desert, which is full of wild animals such as rhinos, buffalos and elephants, we slept safely and quietly under thorn bushes under God's merciful protection. [...] We saw the mountains of Chagga [= local ethnic group] more and more clearly this morning, until around 10 o'clock I thought I saw the summit of one of them, with a striking white cloud. My guide called the white that I saw simply 'cold'; but it became as clear to me as certain that it could be nothing else than snow."* Rebmann's Swahili [= Arabized native] caravan guide had visited that mountain and thought the white stuff was silver and sent locals up the mountain. The locals, according to Rebmann, *"should bring him as much of the silver as possible, but they brought nothing but water back to the speculating Swahili"* (Krapf 1858: 30-31; this and subsequent quotes are translated by the author).

More than a year later, Krapf himself embarked on a voyage of discovery, seeing this snow mountain on November 10, 1849 as the second European from a distance to the south: *"In the morning I had a beautiful view of the Kilimanjaro snow mountain in Chagga. [...] Even at this distance I could see that the white matter I saw must be snow. [...] This is what I and all my people have seen and what every subsequent traveler will see [...]"* (Krapf 1858: 142-143). Upon noting that Krapf literally let sit the tallest

Continued on page 6

My Favorite Map *continued*



Fig. 3: Detail of Fig. 5 on page 7

peak in Africa (5,895 m) to the left and continued marching on in northerly direction into Kikuyu country, where he discovered Mount Kenya (5,199 m) on December 3. Thus, the two highest mountains of the continent had been discovered by Württemberg missionaries with comparatively little effort and in quick advance across the dry steppe highlands above the humid tropical coastal lowlands (Fig. 3).

Of course, Rebmann and Krapf reported their findings back to Europe, where their descriptions were received with caution. Doubter-in-Chief was Irish geographer William D. Cooley (1795-1883), since the 1830s the Royal Geographical Society's recognized capacity to 'classify' research reports from Africa, described it as utterly impossible that there could be snow mountains under the equator. While Krapf on a brief visit to Europe in 1850 was able to convince Alexander von Humboldt of the existence of the equatorial snow mountains,

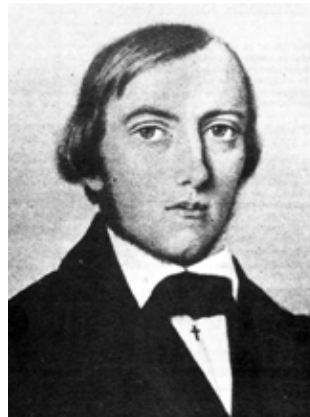


Fig. 4: Jakob Erhardt

Cooley, as a strong-willed if not stubborn scholar, held firm to his opinion even as Carl C. von der Decken (1833-65) during his second attempt to ascend Mount Kilimanjaro in 1862 had to turn around because of heavy snow fall. Good luck for classic modern world literature that Ernest Hemingway's opening and closing paragraphs of the short story "The Snows of the Kilimanjaro" (1936 in *Esquire Magazine*) rather trusted German missionaries than an Irish armchair geographer.

It was Jakob Erhardt (1823-1901, Fig. 4), who in 1849 as third Württemberg missionary came to Rabai Mpya, who added to his colleagues' explorations. Quite unusually, however, these were not based on own observations but rather on careful listening and asking at the for a godly man even more unusual comfort of shebeens. In a letter to a newspaper back home in Württemberg, Johannes Rebmann on April 23, 1855, described the result of Erhardt's linguistic pub crawls: "*While my colleague, missionary Erhardt, spent 6 months in Tanga [= coastal town in the north of today's Tanzania], in order to study the Kisumbara language, he nolens volens had to listen often to the travel stories that the ivory traders of that place put on table. It was those traders who presented Lake Uniamwesi to him simply as the continuation of Lake Niassa, as they said, the latter turning westward from its northern direction and then one more time to the north to a much greater extent to near to extend to the mountains, which, passing through the middle of the continent [= mythical Mountains of Kong], form the mighty watershed. The north side of them are the sources of the Nile, Lake Chad and the Chadda River [= Benue River], while the south side sends the waters partly towards the Atlantic Sea (in Congo or Zaire), partly the Indian Ocean [...], and, what I find most likely, toward this inland sea. As we have always considered all the news from the natives to be very uncertain and inaccurate, so too was Br[other] Erhardt initially not willing to believe this statement. Only one circumstance had struck him as very strange, namely that the travelers all left from the various starting points, such as Uibo, Kiloa, Mbuamadshi [= Dar es-Salaam], Bagamoyo, Pangani and Tanga [all in modern Tanzania], i.e. from a coastline of about 6 degrees of latitude [= about 670 km], in very great different distances from the coast but all arrived to a Baheri or inland sea*" (Krapf 1858: 507-508).

Missionary Krapf, who had arrived at the East African coast five years before Ehrhardt, in the memoir on his work in Africa seconded: "*As for myself, when I first arrived in East Africa in 1844, I heard of a lake in [the interior region of] Uniamesi, as well as the Niassa. Lake Uniamesi was called to me Tanganika, which*

In addition to its focus on Texas and the Greater Southwest, The University of Texas at Arlington's Special Collection has always collected cartographic material on other parts of the world. A major resource in this respect is August Petermann's monthly journal *Mitteilungen aus Justus Perthes' geographischer Anstalt [...]* of which UTA holds possible the most complete run of the issues up to 1945 in between the big collections on the east and west coasts. Since 2018, Jack Franke has most significantly enlarged UTA's collection of maps on Africa by a still growing endowment of hundreds of rare items. With that donation the Arlington collection is on its way to rub shoulders with the most significant university map collections on Africa in the United States. A selection of 114 Africa maps from the Franke Endowment, ranging in time from 1493 to 1940, are digitally accessible at UTA Special Collection's website Cartographic Connections under <https://libguides.uta.edu/africamaps>

Continued on page 7

My Favorite Map *continued*

is probably the name of the lake in the area where my rapporteur saw it. I also heard of a large lake when I visited in Ukambani [= landscape north of the Kilimanjaro] in 1851, the end of which you cannot reach, even if you walk 100 days. So, I had long been convinced of the existence of a large lake inside, but I was and still am [= written in 1857/58] doubtful whether Lake Niassa is connected to the Uniamesi, especially since I heard from several [native] African travelers that both lakes are completely separate. I want to make the case undecided [...]. The investigation by European travelers must clarify this important problem" (Krapf 1858: 514-515).

In the August 1855 monthly issue of his journal *Mittheilungen aus Justus Perthes' Geographischer Anstalt* [...], the cartographer August Petermann (1822-78) informed his readers that missionary Rebmann had sent him the sketch of a map (Fig. 5) and report, according to which "the heart of Africa – the

much discussed terra incognita – is finally revealed to the eye". This map sketch was only a forerunner of "Brother Erhardt's beautiful and elaborate manuscript map, which, in addition to the great inland sea, also brings to light the various caravan routes as well as the many peoples and tribes that spread around them [...]" (Petermann 1855: 233).

Once the missionary's manuscript map had arrived, Petermann published his elaboration of the sketch in a critical appraisal in the January issue 1856, to which he added Erhardt's map memoir as well as Cooley's commentary and his own remarks. While the missionary relied entirely on the information gathered from locals, Cooley criticized that supposedly blue-eyed takeovers several times, such as with regard to the width of the inland lake: Erhardt stated "that the residents of the east bank of the lake had no

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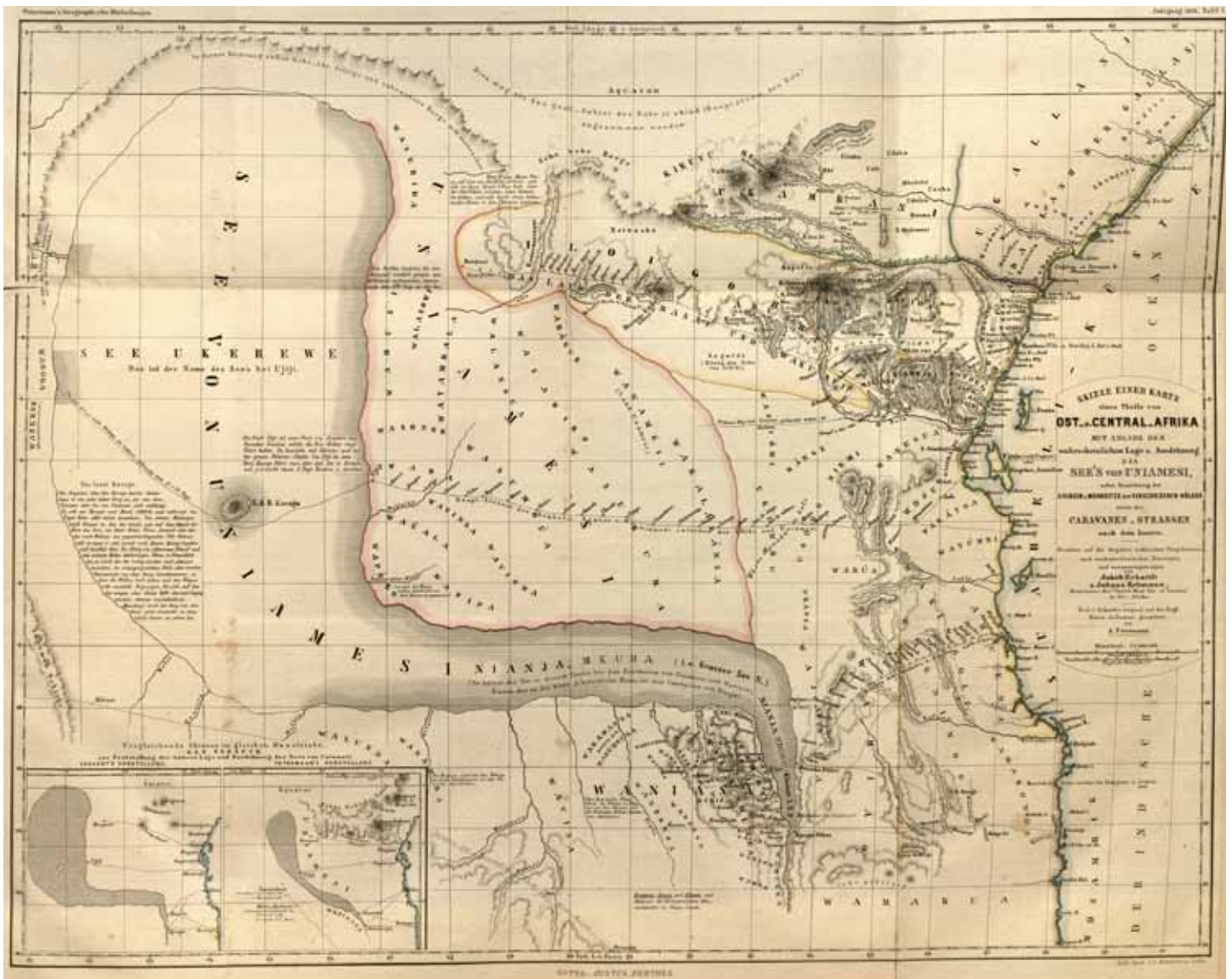


Fig. 5: August Peterman's 'Sketch Map' of the assumed extension of Lake Uniamesi in the interior of East Africa

My Favorite Map *continued*

opposite land but see an unlimited sea. But this does not even prove a width of thirty miles" (= about 50 kilometers, cited in Petermann 1856: 24). In his own judgment and map drawing, Petermann took arguments from both positions. Siding with Cooley, the enormous width of five degrees of longitude or about 800 kilometers seemed doubtful to him. In retrospect, the strength of this map lies less in the eye-catching but very crude assumption about the Gargantuan water body but rather in the information on (slave) trade routes and the distribution of ethnic groups. Missionaries like Erhardt simply focused their interest on people, while abstract and, moreover, based on mere hearsay, spatial relationships were understandably of lesser concern to the Lord's men.

Despite the objections, which eventually came closer to the real lay of the land, Petermann constructed the map according to Erhardt, but included two sketches in the lower left, contrasting his view of the "true location and extent of the Uniamesi lake" with that of the missionary. The printed "Sketch of a Map of a Part of East and Central Africa [...]", which appears so bizarre today, faithfully reflected in beautiful openness the complete lack

of European knowledge about the interior of Africa by still the 1850s. Only the corridor from the coast to the volcanos Kilimanjaro and Kenya was somewhat known through the missionaries. The locales of the ethnic groups as well as the traversing Arab slave trade routes were based on hearsay only, as was the the huge inland water in regards its "probable location and extension".

It was precisely these white spots and the implausible lake, which Petermann expressly marked as approximate, that instantaneously challenged travelers to correct by reputable eyesight reports and cartographic observations. In 1856, the Royal Geographical Society sent out John F. Burton and John H. Speke to settle the for so long pending question on the source of the (White) Nile. Primarily along the central East African trade route they left the coast in June 1857 and reached the port of Ujiji on Erhardt's map in February 1858 (Fig. 6). On site, the two Brits found out that the supposedly single giant lake did not exist, but that it split up into the three still very large lakes Victoria, Tanganyika and Nyasa (Burton's Expedition 1859: 79).

Continued on page 9

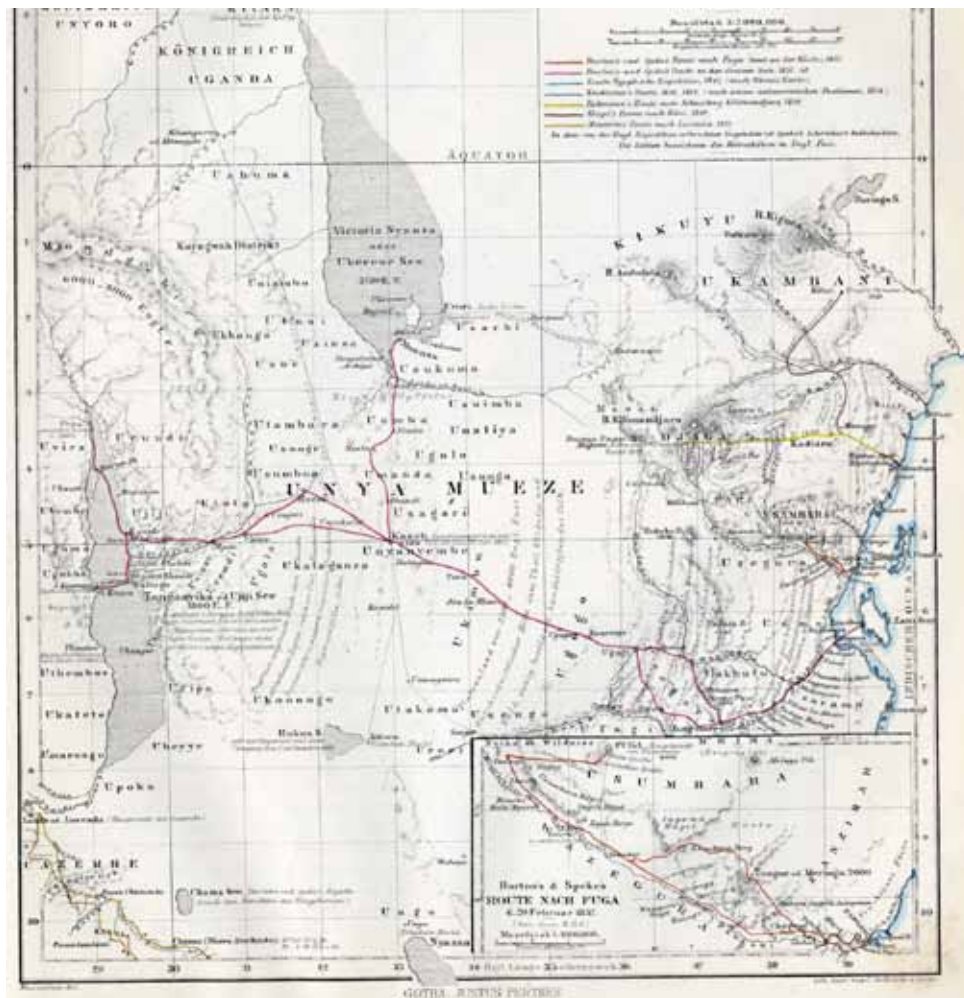


Fig. 6: Cartographically splitting up the gargantuan lake into three still very large water bodies-

My Favorite Map *continued*

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[Petermann, August] (1856):

J. Erhardt's Mémoire zur Erläuterung der von ihm und J. Rebmann zusammengestellten Karte von Ost- und Zentral-Afrika. Nebst Bemerkungen von W. Desborough Cooley und A. Petermann. Mittheilungen aus Justus Perthes' geographischer Anstalt [...], Vol. 2, pp. 19-32.

Figures

Figure 1:

Portrait of Johann Krapf (www.wikipedia.org).

Figure 2:

Portrait of Johannes Rebmann (www.wikipedia.org).

Figure 3:

Detail of Fig. 5, showing the knowledge about the interior in 1856 between the coast of the Indian Ocean with the mission station Rabai Mpya north of Mombasa and the volcanos Kilimanjaro and Kenya (on the map named Kignea).

Figure 4:

Portrait of Jakob Erhardt (www.wikipedia.org).

Figure 5:

August Petermann:

Skizze einer Karte eines Theils von Ost- und Central-Afrika mit Angabe der wahrscheinlichen Lage u. Ausdehnung des See's von Uniamwesi, nebst Bezeichnung der Grenzen u. Wohnsitze der verschiedenen Völkersowie der Caravanen-Strassen nach dem Innern. Gestützt auf die Angaben zahlreicher Eingeborenen und muhammedanischer Reisenden [...]. Maasstab 1:5.000.000 (= Sketch of a Map of a Part of East and Central Africa with indication of the probable location and extension of the lake of Uniamwesi, along with designation of the borders and residences of the various peoples as well as the caravan routes to the interior. Based on information from numerous natives and Muslim travelers [...]. Scale 1:5,000,000). With two inset maps in 1:24 million on bottom left, the outer one showing Erhardt's assumption of the lake, the inner one showing Petermann's assumption.

Mittheilungen aus Justus Perthes' geographischer Anstalt [...], Vol. 1 (1855), Table 1. (Courtesy of University of Texas at Arlington, Special Collections).

Figure 6:

Detail of August Petermann:

Originalkarte von Burton's u. Spekes Entdeckungen in Inner-Afrika 1857 und 1858. [...] Maasstab 1:7.000.000 (= Original map of Burton's u. Spekes discoveries in Inner Africa in 1857 and 1858. [...] Scale 1:7,000,000).

Mittheilungen aus Justus Perthes' geographischer Anstalt [...], Vol. 5 (1859), Table 15. (Courtesy of University of Texas at Arlington, Special Collections).

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.

The GLO Archives in the Times of COVID-19

By the Archives and Records Staff at the Texas General Land Office

Like much of the rest of the world, the staff at the Texas General Land Office (GLO) have been affected by the coronavirus. One of the most obvious results of this global pandemic for our staff, and much of the rest of the state, was the *Stay Home — Be Safe* order from Governor Greg Abbott earlier this spring.

Like our coworkers, we can perform many duties from home, but we are also tasked with managing and preserving a physical archive of 36 million documents, maps, sketches, and drawings. Because access, conservation, digitization, and customer service have been the four main pillars of success in the GLO Archives and Records Program, staff have had to get creative with assisting patrons and on their own current projects. How can the public continue to access GLO records? How can Texans remain engaged with their history while practicing social distancing? What projects are GLO staff working on from home? Let's take a look!

Accessing GLO Records

Because the GLO Archives was at the forefront of archival digitization that began in 2000, there are presently over 3.5 million individual digital images that are accessible online through the [Land Grant Database](#) and [Map Store](#). This wealth of digital material is available to both our external customers and to GLO staff members themselves who might be working on state projects that require the use of our original land grants or maps. This massive digitization project has greatly increased patron access as well as better preserved the original files at the same time since they don't have to come out of dark storage or be handled as frequently.

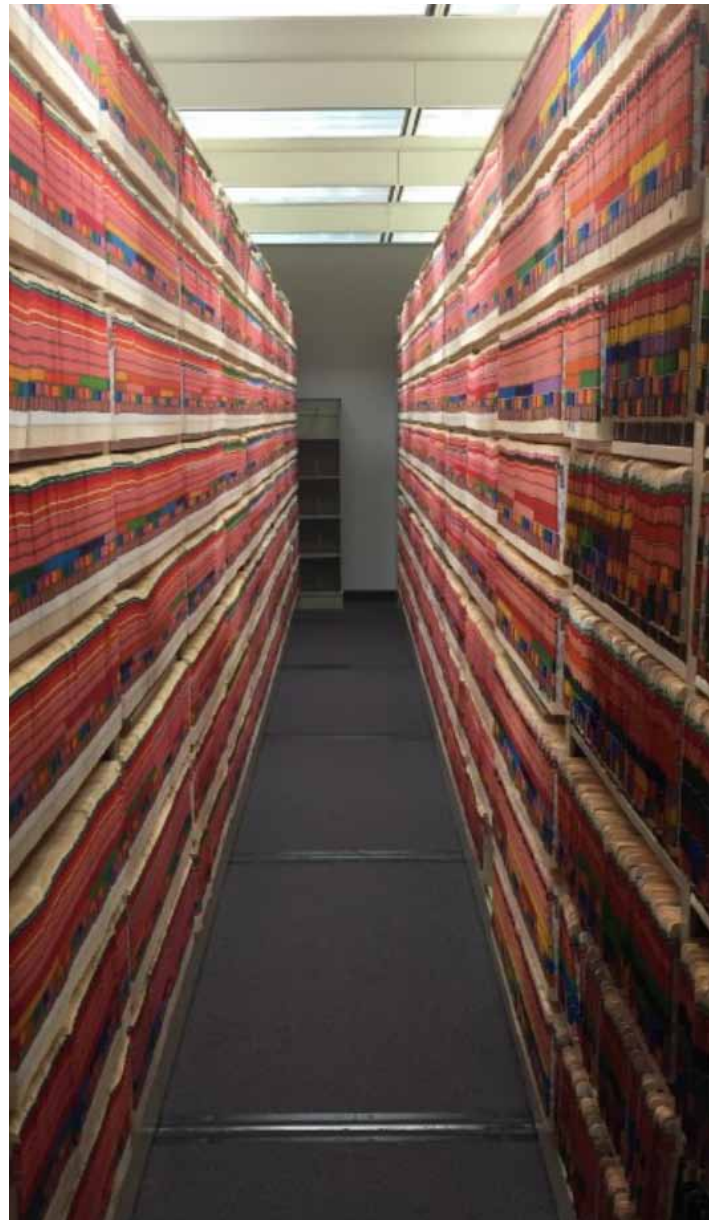
The [GIS Land and Lease Mapping Viewer](#) is another fantastic resource for online research in the GLO's records, which allows you to look up the location of an original land grant on a current Texas map layer.

For researchers who may not be familiar with navigating the Land Grant Database or Map Store, GLO Research Staff can still help. They are still guiding researchers to digital resources and providing online consultations through email (archives@glo.texas.gov), for surveyors, genealogists, historians, students, or anyone else with a research question. By emailing this address, we will respond within one business day to help address your question.

For researchers who need access to material that is not online, we encourage you to submit a request for material to archives@glo.texas.gov. Once per week, a staffer collects all order requests and goes into the office, pull files, make copies, and places the copies in the mail. In many cases, this is for surveyors or other land or legal professionals whose work continues because there is a land transaction where time is of the essence.

Additionally, because of the paramount importance of these records, since they protect title to every square inch of land in Texas, in addition to roving security guards and facility managers being constantly in our building, our staffers visit the archival vaults almost daily to ensure that all HVAC units are running properly and that the original documents and maps are not in danger from poor environmental conditions or other issues like problems from nearby capitol complex construction work.

Continued on page 11



Several thousand files, each encased in protective polyester film and acid-free folders, line each row of the Archives file vault.

GLO Archives *continued*

Engaging the Public, Teachers, and Students

The GLO Archives has an ongoing blog program that features hundreds of historical articles at <https://medium.com/@txglo> that are derived from the documents and maps found in our archival vaults. Here are some of our favorites:

- [Archives 101: Preservation, Conservation, Restoration](#)
- [Organizing the Archives: The Land Districts of Texas](#)
- [Fresh off the Scanner — The Public School Land and University Lands Bound Volumes](#)
- [Fresh off the Scanner — The Nacogdoches Copy Books Bound Volumes](#)
- [The Confederate Scrip Program: Land for Texas Veterans](#)
- [Land Records: Placing Your Ancestors' Acreage](#)
- [Tejano Genealogy in the Trans-Nueces Region at the Texas General Land Office](#)
- [Tejano Genealogy Beyond South Texas at the Texas General Land Office](#)
- [The Visita General and the South Texas Porciones](#)
- [From the Spanish Collection: Overlapping Sovereignty and Private Property on the East Texas Frontier](#)
- [A Work in Progress — the First Draft of the Constitution of the Republic of Texas](#)
- [Reliving the Alamo — Susanna Dickinson and the Court of Claims](#)
- [Genealogy Spotlight: German Immigration Contracts at the GLO](#)

The screenshot shows the Texas General Land Office website's search interface. At the top, there is a header with the GLO logo, the text "The Texas General Land Office" and "George P. Bush, Commissioner", and the phone number "1.800.998.4GLO (4456)". Below the header is a navigation menu with links for HOME, THE GLO, EDUCATION, ENERGY, VETERANS, HISTORY, LAND, COAST, RECOVERY, and CONTACT. The main content area is titled "LAND GRANTS" and "TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE LAND GRANT SEARCH". A blue box provides instructions on the search format: "Please use the following format: Crockett or Crockett, David or Crockett, D% in the Original Grantee field. A comma and a space must separate last name and first name. Need Help With Spelling Variations? See How to Use This Catalog". Below this, a message states "THE LAND GRANT DATABASE CURRENTLY HAS 821,910 RECORDS." The search form includes fields for County (a dropdown menu), Abstract Number, Original Grantee, Patentee, Class, File Number, Certificate, Title Date, Patent Date, Patent Number, Patent Volume, Part Section, Survey/Blk/Tsp, and Records per Page (a dropdown menu set to 25). There are "Search" and "Clear" buttons at the bottom of the form. A footer note says: "Having trouble viewing or downloading PDFs? Please ensure SSL is enabled within your browser settings. These settings can be found in the 'Options' menu of your preferred browser."

The GLO's online land grant database.

GLO Archives *continued*

GLO Archives Staff Working From Home

Some of our projects currently being worked on from home to increase our understanding of these records or improve access include:

- **Transcription of Commissioner Reports, 1836–1874.** These annual reports provide an inside look at the workings of the early Land Office, including some of the challenges faced by the agency and state during the nineteenth century. Once complete, these transcriptions will be made available as PDFs next to the original manuscript reports in the Land Grant Database.
- **Indexing the District Clerk Returns.** The District Clerk Returns is a series of almost three hundred files made up of reports of individuals' claims to land certificates. Details about the collection can be found in its finding aid. Staff have worked from home to create a database for inputting metadata (grantees, counties, dates, etc.). Once the database is complete, PDFs of the collection will be added to the Land Grant Database.
- **Quality Control (QC) of Digital Images.** Our digitization staff, which scan over 10,000 digital images per month, are able to work from home ensuring that all digital images are in focus and properly cropped, rotated, and de-skewed, and that multi-page PDFs are in proper page order before they are posted on the website. There are around a half-dozen steps taken after each scan of a document before it goes online to ensure it is properly done the first time, and of high quality and permanence (as opposed to your typical cell phone photo).

- **Cataloging Map Features.** Several staff members are working to identify named features that appear in our map collection. This will eventually allow for a more comprehensive understanding of historic place names in Texas. Researchers will be able to search for a specific creek, town, mountain, Indian encampment, or other features that are identified in historic maps in our collection.
- **Documenting Veteran Loan and GLO Programs.** Staff in our Office of Veterans Records continue to assist GLO Veterans Land Board staff and our partner lenders to properly document veteran home, land, and home improvement loans, and they also work with other GLO departments to archive the work of the agency.
- **New Research.** With such a large and varied collection of documents and maps, there is always something new to discover and write about. Several staff members are working on producing new content to highlight various aspects of the GLO Archives, with a specific focus on our map collection. Additionally, staff are also writing and producing new video scripts and content for This Week in Texas History YouTube features.

In these difficult times, it is best to stay active both mentally and physically. While we can't help you to stay physically active, we hope that the above-mentioned options will appeal to you mentally, and will help you to possibly trace your family's roots, ponder the long view of history and the many prior calamities we have all survived, and to stay engaged and in love with Texas history.



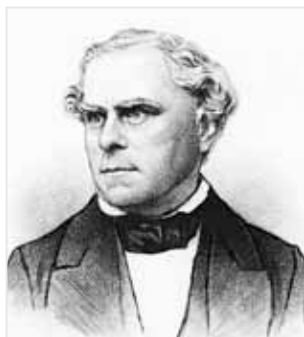
Land Commissioner George P. Bush and James Harkins of the GLO Archives, during a visit on February 21st, which feels a long time ago due to the coronavirus outbreak.

The American School Atlas of William B. Fowle

By Walt Wilson

This is the ninth in a series of *Neatline* articles featuring American school atlases. Previous editions have covered Daniel Adams, Conrad Malte-Brun & Samuel Griswold Goodrich, Jesse Olney, Samuel Augustus Mitchell, Thomas Smiley, Richard McAllister Smith, Roswell Chamberlain Smith, and William Channing Woodbridge. The addition of William Bentley Fowle to the list of names might surprise ardent students of this subject. Fortunately, there are very few who would lay claim to that title, which leaves this fertile ground of geographic discovery relatively unexplored.

William Bentley Fowle was best known as a prominent educator, an ally of the famous Horace Mann, and a leader in educational reform. He was a prolific author, editor, and compiler of a wide variety of school text books including several geographies. A handsome man with light blue eyes, he stood about 5 feet 9 inches tall, which was slightly above average for a mid-nineteenth century male. William Fowle's appearance no doubt aided his effectiveness as a popular speaker and educator.



William Bentley Fowle (1795-1865)

William was born in Boston in 1795 to Henry and Elizabeth Bentley Fowle. His father had been well educated and intended to devote his life to literary pursuits. Family financial difficulties spoiled that plan and led Henry to Boston and the trade of pump and block making. Despite his humble circumstances, Henry accumulated a large library and mastered the French language...

William's mother Elizabeth Bentley was the sister of the eminent scholar Dr. William Bentley. She too had a keen intellect and passed her love of books and learning on to her children. At the age of three, William entered a small public school and three years later enrolled in the well-regarded Eliot School which remains Boston's oldest continuously-run school,

When he was thirteen, William entered the public Latin school and was well versed in languages, particularly French. Like his father before him, financial difficulties prevented William from attending college. At the age of fifteen, his mother Elizabeth died. His father would become a widower a second time before marrying again and having seven more children. William became an apprentice to the learned bookseller, education reformer, and publisher, Caleb Bingham. The business of Bingham's book store was almost exclusively school books. The store was also the favorite gathering place for local school teachers. Collectively, these men mentored William in his continuing education.

When Mr. Bingham died in 1817, the 22-year-old Fowle became the manager of his bookstore. A year later, William married Marie Antoinette Moulton (1800-1859) with whom he had 6 girls and one boy. In addition to running the store, Fowle spent his time publishing, studying, and by 1821 serving on Boston's primary

school committee. That group decided to open a school for older boys in the city who were growing up uneducated. They had missed primary school and were now too ignorant to gain admission to the grammar schools.

Upon the absence of the teacher, Fowle stepped in as a temporary replacement with the proviso that he could continue to manage his bookstore. He was so successful, even with the roughest set of pupils, he continued in the position for two years. His school employed the Lancaster (or monitorial) system of education that relied on older, more accomplished students to assist with the education of the younger ones. The school masters "monitored" the curriculum which permitted larger numbers of students to receive instruction at a lower cost.

Despite criticism from more traditional school masters, prominent Bostonians were impressed with his results. With their financial support, Fowle became headmaster of a new Female Monitorial School in 1823, a position he held for seventeen years. In 1840, he left that position to improve his health and concentrate on publishing, writing, and lecturing on education. In 1852 he returned to the classroom and opened a private monitorial school in Boston that he led until 1860.

Fowle was a trusted supporter of Massachusetts Board of Education Secretary Horace Mann (1796-1859) who is generally recognized as the father of American public education. Fowle helped Mann lead the way for the creation of teacher's colleges and included geography education among his education reforms. Fowle's *Practical Geography* and its accompanying atlas were among the required Massachusetts normal school text books.

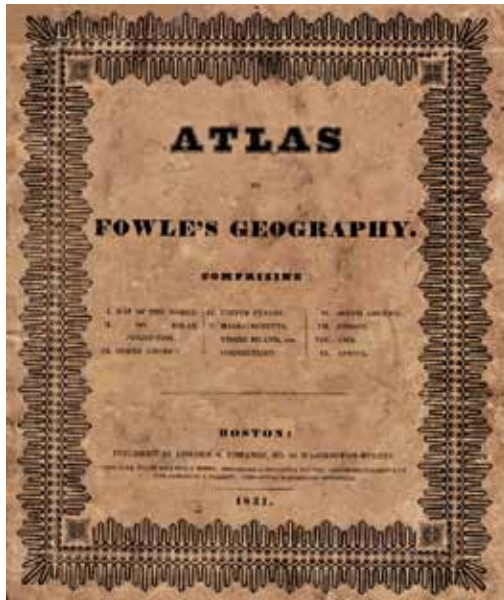
Fowle's classroom innovations included the introduction of the black-board, the hand-drawing of maps and geometrical diagrams, and written spelling lessons. He dispensed with corporeal punishment, and was among the first to admit girls and to teach all subjects in the same room. For his Female Monitorial School, he also introduced vocal and instrumental music, calisthenics, and needle-work.

His impressive portfolio of books and journals cover a wide range of classroom topics, several of which continued in print long after his death. They include textbooks on French, drawing, arithmetic; grammar, physiology, reading & writing, Bible scriptures, spelling, speaking, education and instruction. Of more particular interest for this article, Fowle produced four different geography textbooks over a twenty five year period:

- *Practical Geography, as Taught in the Monitorial School* (1824-1830).
- *The Common School Geography: In Which the Natural Features of the Earth, and Such Permanent Divisions as Have Been Made by Man, and Described and Illustrated; and From Which All That Is Likely to Change Before the Child Becomes a Man* (1843).
- *An Elementary Geography for Massachusetts Children* (1845-1849).
- *An Elementary Geography, and Key to Fowle's Outline Maps* (1849).

Continued on page 14

William B. Fowle *continued*



Atlas to Fowle's Geography, 1831

To accompany his geography texts, Fowle produced his only atlas in 1831. Titled *Atlas to Fowle's Geography*, it generally followed the conventional format of the era. Its stiff board covers were brown and measured 9.5 inches wide by 11.75 inches tall. There were nine hand-colored maps which included The World; World Polar Projections; North America; the United States; Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut (with an inset of Boston and Vicinity); South America, Europe; Asia; and Africa. They were all dated August 24th or September 9th, 1830 and engraved by Annin & Smith of Boston. William B. Annin and George G. Smith had engraved maps for Jedidiah Morse (1761–1826), the father of American geography.

Rather than publishing his atlas using his own publishing house, Fowle turned to Lincoln & Edmands of Boston. The firm also produced the small-format atlases of Daniel Adams. *Fowle's Atlas* would be his only book published by Lincoln & Edmands. It is rare, with no copies available for purchase online as of the writing of this article and is not even listed in some of the bibliographies of Fowle's work. Although the atlas is dated 1831 and there are no other known editions, it remained in circulation at least through 1847.

In an 1847 trade journal, there are listings for Fowle's Geography, with an improved atlas, *Fowle's Geography and Atlas*, and "*Fowle's Atlas (separately), adapted to any geography.*" All of these entries probably referred to the same atlas. It was available at a bookstore in New York and another in Boston, but it was not included in the listing for William B. Fowle's bookstore within the same journal. Given the rarity of this atlas, it is difficult to determine whether or not it was ever updated. The examples illustrated within this article are from an edition that is now part of the University of Texas at Arlington's Special Collections (along with a rare 1849 copy of *An Elementary Geography, and Key to Fowle's Outline Maps*).



North America



Detail from Fowle's map of North America

Fowle's North America and United States maps both identify Texas. The map of North America features the United States' Oregon Territory claim up to 54°40' north latitude. Texas is shown as part of Mexico, but it is the only Mexican state that is labeled and outlined. The Texas border runs from the Red River at about the current location of Wichita Falls and west of "San Antonio de Bejar" to the Nueces River.

Fowle's map of the United States covers about two thirds of the contiguous 48 states. It features the "North West Territory Attached to Michigan," Michigan Territory, another huge area labeled as "Part of Missouri Territory," and Arkansas Territory. Arkansas

Continued on page 15

William B. Fowle *continued*



United States



Detail from Fowle's map of the United States

became a state in 1836 and Michigan entered the Union in 1837. Texas is also labeled and outlined on the map of the United States, as are the Red, Sabine, Trinity, "Brassos", "Colorado of the East," "Guadaloupe," and Trinity Rivers. No cities appear in Texas on the United States map.

Fowle's only detailed regional map within the atlas is one of "Massachusetts with Connecticut and Rhode Island." It also has an inset map of "Boston and Vicinity." The lack of additional atlas editions can be explained by Fowle's attitude toward geography education. In his *Elementary Geography for Massachusetts Children*, he complained that school geography books "devote the larger part of the book to remote countries, with which children have little or no sympathy. The mischief is, that authors are so anxious to make books that may be used every where, that they are nearly unfitted to be used any where." It was a noble sentiment, but one that ensured other atlases would easily surpass his more limited vision of what an atlas should be.

In addition to his writing, publishing, and educational pursuits, William Fowle also found time to serve as president of the Boston Phrenological Society. It was one of many nineteenth century



Massachusetts with Connecticut and Rhode Island

groups fascinated with the study the shape and size of the cranium to determine character and mental ability. He also served a term in the state legislature in 1843 and was an outspoken critic of American slavery.

In 1860, a year after his first wife died, Fowle retired and married Mary Baxter Adams (1832–1893). Mary was 37 years his junior and bore him one daughter. William Bentley Fowle died in 1865, leaving a part of his valuable library to Tufts College. Another portion of his library that he had inherited from his uncle Dr. Bentley went to the American Antiquarian Society. The remaining thousand volumes or more stayed with the family.

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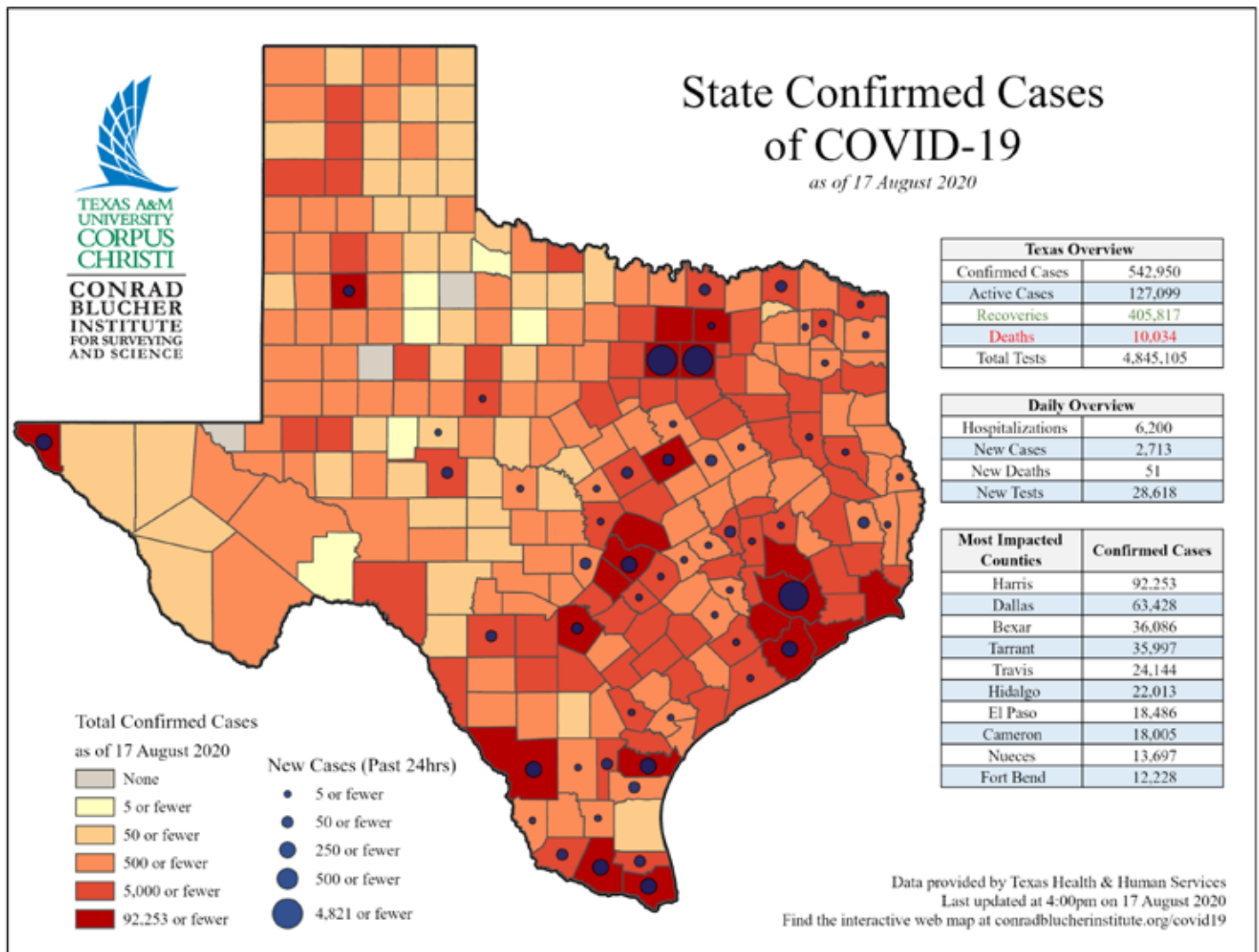
Experts at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi's Conrad Blucher Institute help the public understand spread of COVID-19 with analyses, predictions, and detailed maps

By Dr. Davey Edwards
 Director of the Texas Spatial Reference Center

With the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic in Texas in late March 2020, it soon became difficult for the public to keep up with how the virus was emerging in populations around the state. In the Coastal Bend of Texas, the critical need for more information was soon met by a team that includes researchers and other experts from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

The Coastal Bend COVID-19 Joint Task Force was created on April 2 with the goal of assembling an interdisciplinary team of experts to assess and predict the spread of COVID-19 in the Coastal Bend. Members of the task force came from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, the City of Corpus Christi, Nueces County, hospital systems, and regional health authorities.

Continued on page 17



State Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 as of 17 August 2020

COVID 19 *continued*

“This Joint Task Force has been providing analyses and predictions to city and county leadership as well as weekly presentations to the public,” said Dr. Philippe Tissot, who leads the group. Tissot is Interim Director of the Conrad Blucher Institute for Surveying and Science at A&M-Corpus Christi.

The task force is organized to gather information from multiple sources, review the scientific literature, calibrate and run predictive models, analyze data from cell phone apps, and synthesize and map all this information. Given that Corpus Christi hospitals serve the 12 counties of the Texas Coastal Bend, data from all these counties is gathered along with hospitals’ occupancy and capacity.

“A key goal for the task force is for its analyses and predictions to help prevent the pandemic from overwhelming our regional hospital capacity,” said Dr. Chris Bird, Associate Professor of Life Sciences and lead modeler and spokesperson for the task force. “While there are similarities within states, the spread of the pandemic varies considerably from community to community requiring local leaders to have local data and predictions as well as comparisons between the regions to help gauge how their community is doing.”

The task force provides high quality local information by combining data from the state and direct input from the county/city health director, hospital systems, and regional health authorities. The data is fed into computer models calibrated for the Coastal Bend and other parts of Texas. Predictions are compared with the frontline experience of members of the task force.

“A pragmatic approach with frontline information has been critical to check model predictions and guide decision-makers as this is a new disease that evolves rapidly and with new information continuously generated worldwide,” Tissot said. “The relatively low rates of testing in the state combined with the lags between infection, testing, admission to the hospital and ICUs, and in some cases, casualties, make analyses and decision-making challenging. The task force has been able to calibrate its models to take into account these lags and biases to provide accurate information.”

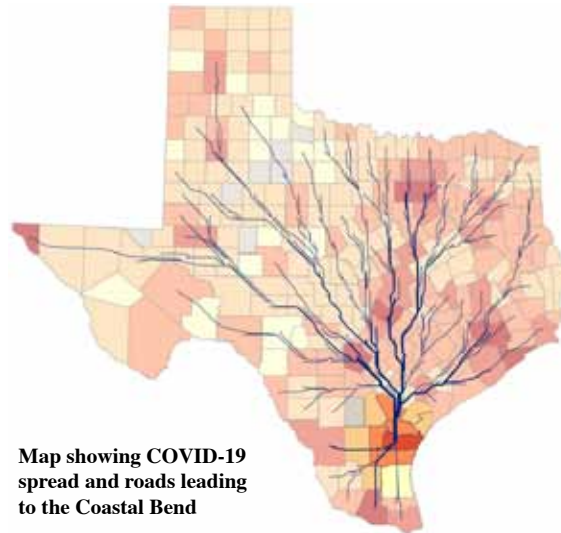
How maps track, interpret pandemic

The COVID-19 dashboard and daily maps are made with ESRI software options, primarily ArcGIS Online and ArcGIS Pro. The task force has three primary maps that they publish daily; new cases, overview, and hospitals’ capacity. Data behind these maps comes from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and the Texas Regional Advisory Council. The latter is the authoritative body on hospital reporting.

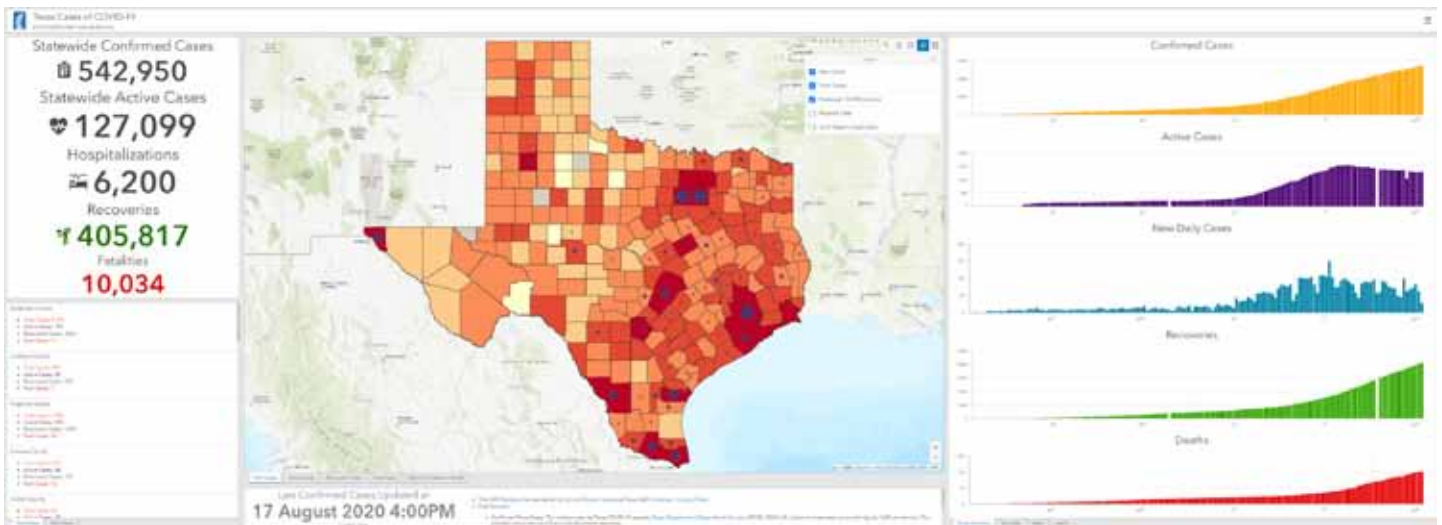
“These maps are made every day, seven days a week, along with the data updates on the TAMU-CC COVID-19 dashboard,” said task force member Bryan Gillis, former Director of the Spatial {Query} Lab at the Conrad Blucher Institute.

The task force members make other maps specific to the Coastal Bend, such as maps showing travel to and from the Coastal Bend from the contiguous United States. Data for those maps comes from SafeGraph and uses volunteered cell phone data to provide large samples of travel. SafeGraph estimates their data is a 10-percent sample of all activated cell phones in the United States.

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Map showing COVID-19 spread and roads leading to the Coastal Bend



Last Confirmed Cases Updated at 17 August 2020 4:00 PM

COVID 19 *continued*

“This gives us high confidence when assessing where travelers are coming from, and where local Coastal Bend residents are going,” Gillis said. “At times we do make unique maps upon public request, like case fatality maps, or comparative maps between raw or normalized data.”

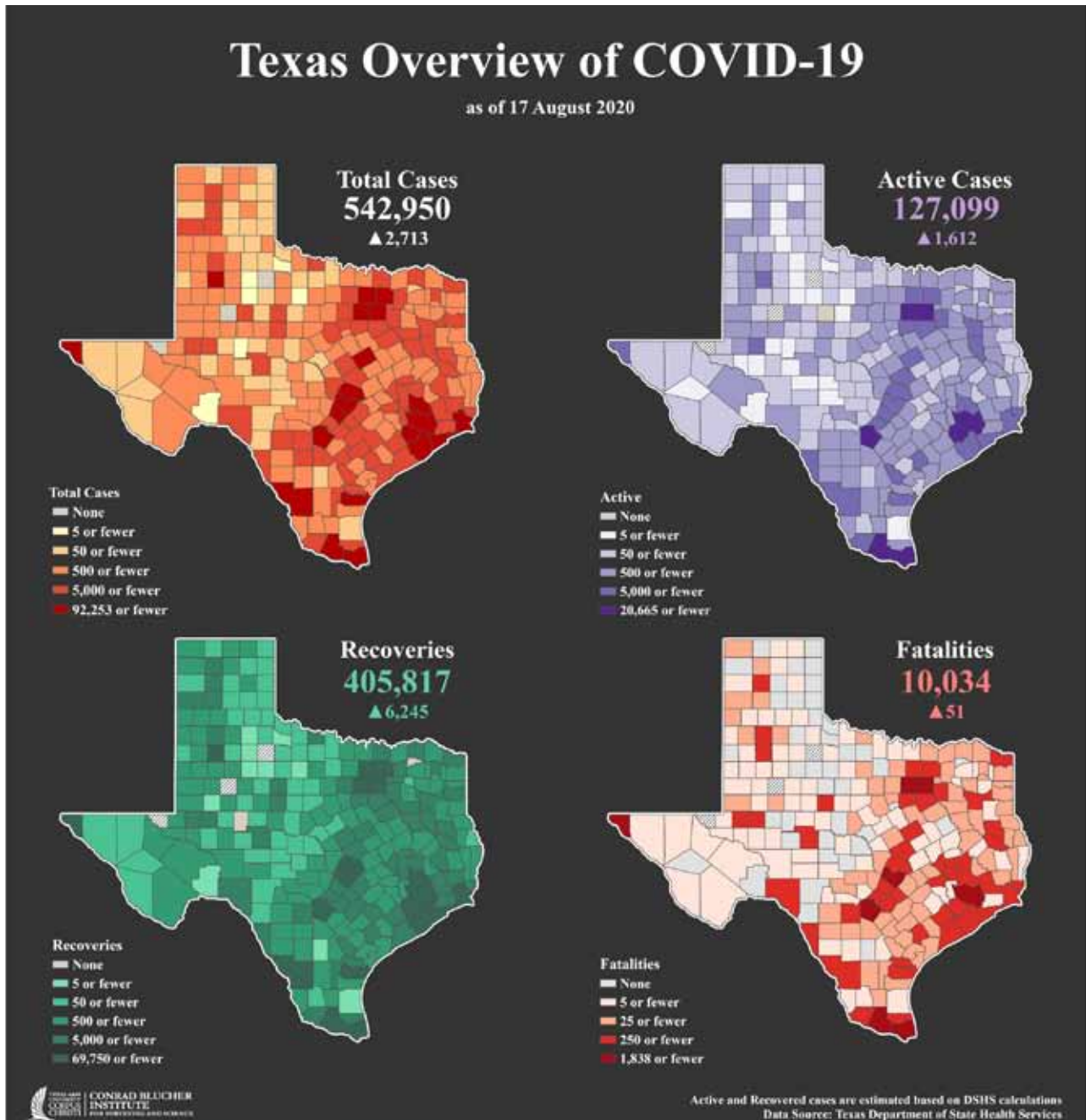
In order to provide better access to the data they are consolidating and producing, everything that goes into their maps and dashboards are hosted publicly on ArcGIS Online.

“You don’t need an account or license to access the data, and everything is set up so that the public can download the data in

a common format, like an Excel workbook,” Gillis said. “We’re always glad to hear when members of the media or public tell us they use our data and share our maps. After all, this is who were making them for.”

When the group first started, they were only making one map a day, and all of the data was manually transcribed and loaded into a geodatabase, but as the State of Texas started offering better, more robust datasets, they began to use that data to create more informative maps.

Continued on page 19



Texas Overview of COVID-19 as of 17 August 2020

COVID 19 *continued*

“Our ‘Texas Overview’ map has become one of the most popular as it shows cumulative, active, recovered, and fatal cases all on one image with four map frames,” Gillis said. “This give a more complete picture of the state of COVID-19 cases in Texas versus only seeing the cumulative case number. Our new cases map was the only map we provided regularly from March to June as it is the best daily snapshot of daily changes, but a lot of the information was statewide and people wanted to see information more specific to a county of interest.”

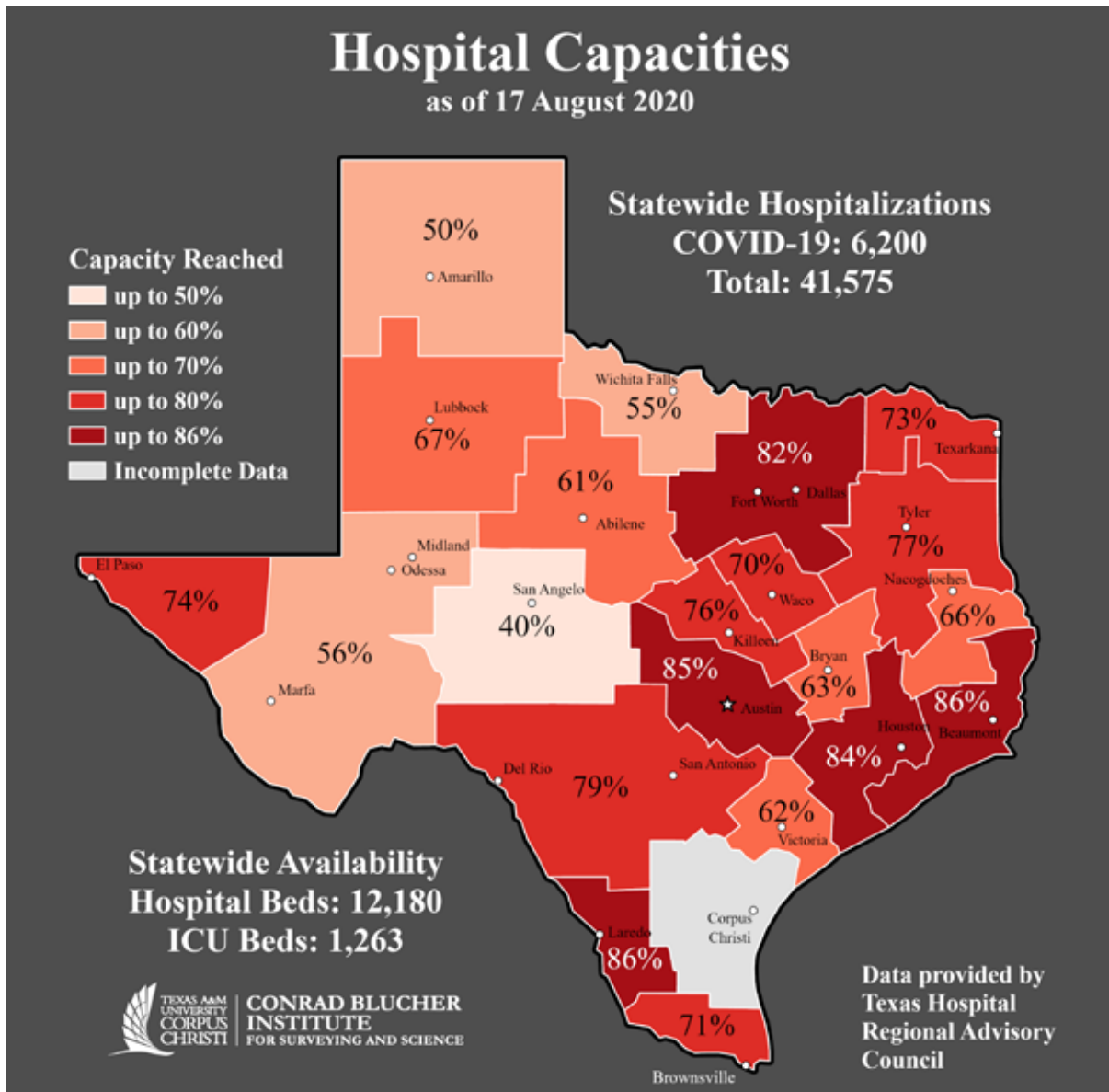
Gillis said early on they also included highways on that map as the spread of the virus was apparent along major travel corridors. When the spread had affected the majority of Texas, highways were removed. Hospital capacities maps were the last to be added, which reflect the average capacity of trauma service areas in Texas.

“Since individual hospital data was either too inconsistent or incomplete, we couldn’t visualize an accurate picture of the state of hospital capacities at that level,” Gillis said. “These maps also showed capacity as it related to all patients, not just COVID-19 patients or ICU patients. We’re hoping that the new hospital reporting forms will include ICU capacity information. If so, we will be adding those maps to our daily lineup.”

Gillis said the only major issue they have been dealing with is automation. Most of the map making process is still manual. This is primarily because of the changing data structure at DSHS to better fit the work they are doing.

“Every time they change their data structure it would break our automation, though that’s OK with us,” Gillis said. “DSHS

Continued on page 20



Hospital Capacities as of 17 August 2020

COVID 19 *continued*

has had to deal with an unprecedented spatial data management situation. Knowing that they were willing to put in the effort to adjust along the way despite the massive headache redesigning spatial databases can be – sometimes just to add one more field here or there – is reflective of their dedication to get this data out to researchers like us.”

Mapmaking one component of Conrad Blucher Institute

The Conrad Blucher Institute is a research institute within Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. CBI conducts innovative research and encourages scientists and professional engineers to develop and apply technology solutions relevant to surveying, scientific measurements, and to the issues in the Gulf of Mexico region.

The Institute has achieved and maintains a national reputation for developing innovative geospatial science research and serves as a focused resource area for geospatial datasets relevant to the coastal environment. CBI projects consist of coastal monitoring, mapping shorelines for beach erosion studies, oceanic/atmospheric predictions, and other related research. To provide for the unique needs of Texas surveyors, CBI is developing strong continuing education and research programs in GIS and Geomatics.

CBI hosts several research labs, including:

- Measurement Analytics Lab (MANTIS)
- Coastal Dynamic Lab (CDL)
- Geospatial Optimization and Analytics Laboratory (GOAL)

The institute also has a large environmental operational team and an information technology team. CBI is home to the Texas Spatial Reference Center, which houses the Spatial {Query} Lab at the heart of the production of the maps and dashboards referenced above.

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi has an undergraduate degree program in Geospatial Information Systems and a graduate degree program in Geospatial Systems Engineering that prepare students to enter the fields of land surveying, geomatics, and geographic information systems.

“A part of the program is to work as an intern within their field of interest in which many continue after graduation,” said Dr. Wm. Davey Edwards, Professional Assistant Professor-Cadastral and Director of the Texas Spatial Reference Center. “The program is proud to have 100% job placement after graduation. Graduates are hired into private land surveying and engineering companies, government agencies, and even land title companies that seek the need of knowledgeable employees. Having ABET accreditation qualifies graduates to obtain professional licensure in land surveying, engineering, and geographic information sciences.”

Students in the GISC/GSEN program are encouraged to be involved with GISSO, the student organization. This exposes them to opportunities such as industry internships, research opportunities with faculty, and national student competitions. In 2020, the TAMU-CC student team took first place in the National Society of Professional Surveyors competition.

In addition to hosting the GISC and GSEN programs, CBI hosts multiple education and outreach initiatives focused on topics like coastal dynamics, GIS and public awareness.

“Our staff often presents at local school events to encourage education in the fields of GIS, coastal processes, and science in general,” Tissot said.

CBI, in collaboration with its sponsors, provides tools like the CHRGIS to promote public awareness regarding coastal processes. In collaboration with Del Mar College, the GISC program hosts annual GIS Day events in November. Additionally, CBI staff give presentations about coastal processes and geospatial techniques.

The Lee R. Greenhouse and Flora E. Lazar Map Donation to UTA

By Ben Huseman

Last year **Mr. Lee Greenhouse** of Chicago selected The University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Special Collections as the place to donate his personal collection of fourteen exquisite antique maps. The maps fit Special Collections' collecting area relating to the history of cartography, but they are well outside our usual focus on Texas, the southwestern United States, Mexico, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Caribbean. The oldest map in this new gift is a finely hand-colored woodcut map of India published in 1513 in Strasbourg:



Martin Waldseemüller and Claudius Ptolemy, *Decima Asiae Tabula*, woodcut with applied color on paper, from Claudius Ptolemy, *Geographia* (Strassburg: Johann Schott, 1513).

The University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Special Collections,
Gift of Lee R. Greenhouse and Flora E. Lazar

Geographer and cartographer Martin Waldseemüller constructed the map according to methods and information passed down through the centuries in the *Geography* written by Claudius Ptolemy, the second-century Greek geographer and scholar working in Alexandria, Egypt. This is the tenth of twelve maps of Asia based upon Ptolemy's work, and it was drawn upon a trapezoidal projection and includes numbers around the edges for the mathematical coordinates of degrees of latitude and longitude.¹ Western geographical knowledge of the East was obviously quite limited, having to rely upon ancient sources. Waldseemüller, of course, is the same cartographer who created the 1507 world map that first named the continent America after Amerigo Vespucci.²

Antwerp-based atlas creator Abraham Ortelius' map of China first published in 1584 is now represented in UTA's growing collections by an original engraving on paper with original hand

color from the first Spanish edition of Ortelius' atlas published in 1588:



After Luiz Jorge de Barbuda, *Chinae, olim Sinarum regionis, nova descriptio...*, engraving with applied color on paper, from Abraham Ortelius, *Theatro de la Tierra Universal...* (Antwerp: Christophe Plantin, 1588 first Spanish edition; first published in Latin in 1584).

The University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Special Collections,
Gift of Lee R. Greenhouse and Flora E. Lazar

The Spanish text on the back of the map helps identify and date the edition.³ At the time, Ortelius' map was the most accurate map of China available in the West and it was the first European printed map to show the Great Wall. Ortelius directly credited his Portuguese source for this map: Jorge Luiz de Barbuda, a scholar in Lisbon who had access to information from Portuguese traders and Portuguese Jesuit missionaries.⁴ Portuguese traders had first reached China by sea in 1513 and Portuguese Jesuit missionaries had established their headquarters for China and Japan at the trading port of Macao at the mouth of the Pearl River in 1563. Unfortunately, Jorge Luiz did not record what Chinese maps he may have used. The map, oriented with west at the top, contains some interesting details and inscriptions in addition to decorations consisting of Flemish Mannerist strapwork, fruit, birds, and cherubs or *putti*. In several places on the land there are elephants, deer or elk, Mongolian nomadic tents or *yurts* (*gers*), and sail cars or land yachts – an older Chinese invention that gained popularity in Europe at this time.⁵ A couple of European ships and what appears to be a shark cruise offshore.

Continued on page 22

Map Donation *continued*

The Greenhouse/Lazar gift includes three maps of Japan. The oldest of these is *Japonia*, a hand-colored map engraved on copperplate by Jodocus Hondius and first published in Amsterdam in 1606:

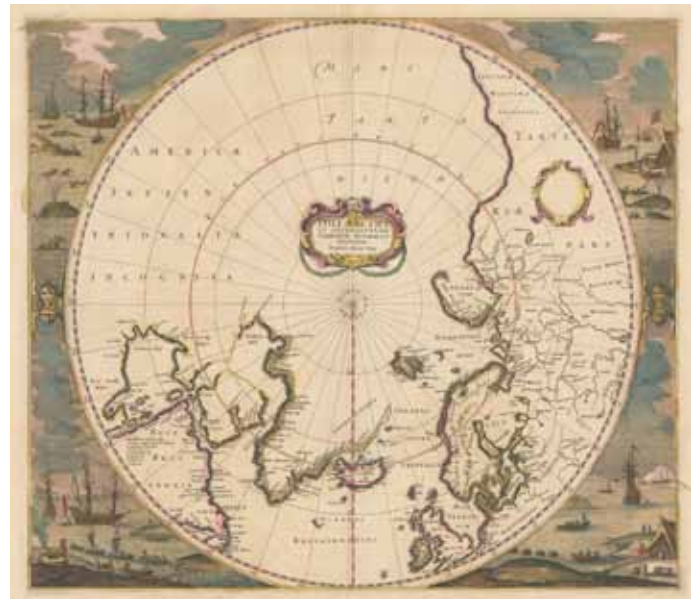


Jodocus Hondius, *Japonia*, engraving with applied color on paper, Amsterdam, 1606. The University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Special Collections, Gift of Lee R. Greenhouse and Flora E. Lazar

Hondius derived his information from Ortelius who in 1595 had first published a map of Japan acknowledged as the work of Portuguese mathematician and cartographer Luis Teixeira (active 1564-1604).⁶ Portuguese merchants had been shipwrecked on the island of Kyūshū as early as 1543 and the first Portuguese Jesuit missionary had arrived just two years later. Hondius' map was largely identical to the Ortelius/Teixeira map but Hondius added his own ornamental Mannerist-style strap-work cartouches for the title and scale guide and substituted a sea monster and a two-masted Japanese or Chinese junk for a couple of the Portuguese-style merchant carracks or galleons.

The rest of the maps from the Greenhouse/Lazar donation to UTA are no less worthy of note. They include three unusually early maps showing polar projections: two Arctic maps and one Antarctic map. Viewing a couple of these “cool” maps should help mitigate (to some extent) the continuing late summer heat here in Texas.

Hendrik Hondius's *Poli Arctici, et Circumiacentium Terrarum Descriptio Novissima* (roughly translated as “Arctic Pole, and Adjoining Lands Newly Described”), for example, is a beautifully hand colored, early state copperplate engraving. It has fascinating Dutch whaling and walrus-hunting scenes surrounding the map as well as Latin text on the back. It could have come from any one of three editions of Hondius' *Atlas Novus*, published in Amsterdam in 1638, 1641 or 1644. Hondius left large areas blank where no reliable information was available, labelling an immense area simply “*Americae Septentrionalia*



Hendrik Hondius, *Poli Arctici, et Circumiacentium Terrarum Descriptio Novissima*, engraving with applied color on paper (Amsterdam: Hondius, 1636). The University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Special Collections, Gift of Lee R. Greenhouse and Flora E. Lazar

Incognita” or “Unknown North America.” He employed coastal outlines from credible sources such as English mathematician Henry Brigg's map of *The North Part of America* from 1625 which included information from the explorations of Martin Frobisher, Henry Hudson, George Weymouth, Thomas Button, William Baffin, and others. Bristol merchant Thomas James' map also influenced Hondius.⁷ Of particular interest are the Dutch late Mannerist or early Baroque style grotesque ornaments appearing to support the hemisphere at middle left and middle right.

The Frederik de Wit and Jansson Heirs-issued Antarctic map completing the set is often referred to by its original title “*Polus Antarcticus*.” When first produced by Henricus Hondius in Amsterdam in 1639, this popular map had a cartouche with this title in the lower left of the hemisphere and a blank cartouche in the middle left. Since the words “*Terra Australis Incognita*” appear in the center of the untitled later editions (and in the earlier ones too), these words are often used as a secondary title. The map was re-engraved several times and appeared in many Dutch atlases by the Hondius and Jansson families and others as late as the 1680s. The map donated is a re-engraved version by Frederik de Wit with excellent hand coloring. It possibly came from *Atlas contractus, sive Atlantis majoris compendium...*, published in Amsterdam by the Jansson Heirs in 1666.⁸ When updated, Hondius' cartouches were omitted and new map details substituted. As early as 1650 Johannes Jansson added the 1642 discoveries of Dutch explorer Abel Tasman (part of New Zealand and the island of

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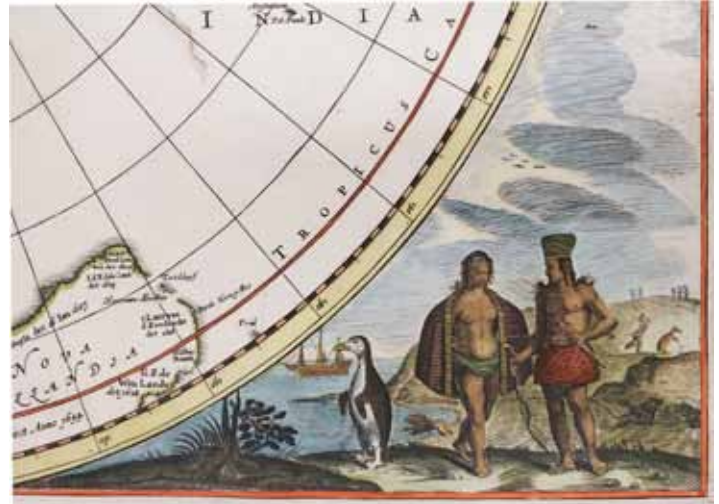
Map Donation *continued*



Frederik de Wit, [*Polus Antarcticus*] *Terra Australis Incognita*, engraving with applied color on paper, probably from *Atlas contractus, sive Atlantis majoris compendium* ... (Amsterdam: Jansson Heirs, 1666).
The University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Special Collections, Gift of Lee R. Greenhouse and Flora E. Lazar

Tasmania) to the bottom center of the composition and added the name “Nova Hollandia” to the land that eventually became known as Australia.⁹ The southern tips of South America and Africa, the partial outline of the west coast of Australia, and the pictorial compositions in the corners were on Hondius’ original version of the map. Hondius undoubtedly intended the scenes to represent indigenous inhabitants of the southern regions, including South Africans, South Americans, South Sea islanders, and possibly Aboriginal Australians. Interesting details in these scenes include a square-rigged East Indiaman as well as a lateen-rigged vessel of non-European origin, a native woman with her back to the viewer revealing her long, neatly-braided hair. Perhaps the most curious details include a penguin and what appears to be a swimming African lion with an unusual tail – apparently a Dutch illustrator’s interpretation of a text describing sea lions! There are more of these “sea lions” at the extreme lower right along with a figure clubbing a giant penguin.

During the past few years UTA Libraries Special Collections has carefully broadened its collecting scope to include some materials that better serve the incredibly diverse interests and backgrounds of members of the University and rapidly growing DFW population. The earlier cartographic collections’ focus



Detail from Frederik de Wit, [*Polus Antarcticus*] *Terra Australis Incognita*, probably from *Atlas contractus, sive Atlantis majoris compendium* ... (Amsterdam: Jansson Heirs, 1666) showing natives, penguins, and “sea lions.”
The University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Special Collections, Gift of Lee R. Greenhouse and Flora E. Lazar

on Texas, the Southwest, Mexico, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Caribbean is still emphasized, but it is hoped (and already also proven before and even during the current pandemic) that new areas of collecting will also attract new classes, scholars, and visitors. Over 5,000 of UTA’s maps, many of which came from the marvelous Virginia Garrett Map Collection, are already available on the web through UTA Libraries *Cartographic Connections* <https://libguides.uta.edu/cccon> and [The Portal to Texas History](#). And since last year, more digital images of UTA’s amazing collections of maps are appearing in [UTA Libraries Digital Gallery Beta](#). The Africa Map Collection of Dr. Jack Franke has been steadily arriving here since 2018 and already constitutes over 450 items. Parts of it are already available in [UTA Libraries Digital Gallery](#) and through a growing [Maps and Images of Africa](#) “Libguide.” It will be featured in the forthcoming 2021 Virginia Garrett Lectures (postponed from this fall). We are also beginning to feature items from the Franke Collection as well as other acquisitions (both older and recent) in [Compass Rose blog posts](#), of which this article is an excerpt. So, while the fourteen maps of the Lee R. Greenhouse and Flora E. Lazar Map Collection may sound relatively small in comparison to these other developments, they are maps of considerable significance. They also represent areas of the world not normally collected by UTA Libraries Special Collections but they nevertheless fit and complement our growing collections and interests perfectly.

Continued on page 24

Map Donation *continued*

End Notes

- ¹ Claudius Ptolemy, and R. A. Skelton. *Ptolemaeus, Geographia. Strassburg, 1513*. (Amsterdam: Theatrum Orbis Terrarum, 1966). Ptolemy did not himself originate the numbering system, but in turn based it upon the work of other fellow ancient Greeks, including Eratosthenes of Cyrene, Hipparchus of Nicea, and Marinus of Tyre.
- ² Robert W. Karrow, Jr., *Mapmakers of the Sixteenth Century and Their Maps: Bio-Bibliographies of the Cartographers of Abraham Ortelius, 1570* (Chicago, Speculum Orbis Press, 1993), pp. 568–583.
- ³ Marcel van den Broecke, *Ortelius Atlas Maps: An Illustrated Guide* (Second Revised Edition; Houten, Netherlands: Hes & De Graaf, 2011; first published 1996), pp. 491-493. Some may recall 1588 as an important year in Spanish and world history as it marked the defeat of the Spanish Armada sent by Philip II against Elizabethan England.
- ⁴ Peter H. Meurer, *Fontes Cartographici Orteliani: Das "Theatrum Orbis Terrarum" von Abraham Ortelius und seine Kartenquellen*. (Weinheim, Germany: VCH Verlagsgesellschaft, 1991), pp. 111-112; Karrow, Jr., (1993), p. 18.
- ⁵ Kenneth Nebenzahl, *Mapping the Silk Road and Beyond: 2,000 Years of Exploring the East* (London and New York: Phaidon Press Limited, 2004), p. 130, plate 4.
- ⁶ Lutz Walter, ed., *Japan: A Cartographic Vision: European Printed Maps from the Early 16th to the 19th Century* (Munich and New York: Prestel, 1994), plate 22.
- ⁷ Philip D. Burden, *The Mapping of North America I: A List of Printed Maps* (Rickmansworth, Herts, England, U.K.: Raleigh Publications, 1996), pp. 265-166, 298, 311-313, no. 246.
- ⁸ See Wit, Frederik de., and Jansson heirs." [Polus Antarcticus]." Map.1666. *Norman B. Leventhal Map & Education Center*, <https://collections.leventhalmap.org/search/commonwealth:7h14b183m> (accessed June 12, 2020).
- ⁹ Robert Clancy, *The Mapping of Terra Australis* (Macquarie Park, NSW, Australia: Universal Press Pty Ltd., 1995), pp. 80, 126.



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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."

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2020 Dues

Texas Map Society owes its success to its faithful members. The TMS board met in its first virtual meeting in April, at the beginning of the pandemic, and decided to postpone sending dues notices until mid-year. If you are in a position to pay TMS dues for 2020, we ask that you do so. The most convenient way is through the membership page on the TMS website:

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

You can either renew online through Paypal, or print off a membership form to be mailed to Lynne Starnes, our current treasurer. Please be sure to update your contact information if anything has changed. Regardless, please know that we want you to continue as a TMS member – no one will be purged from our membership list this year.