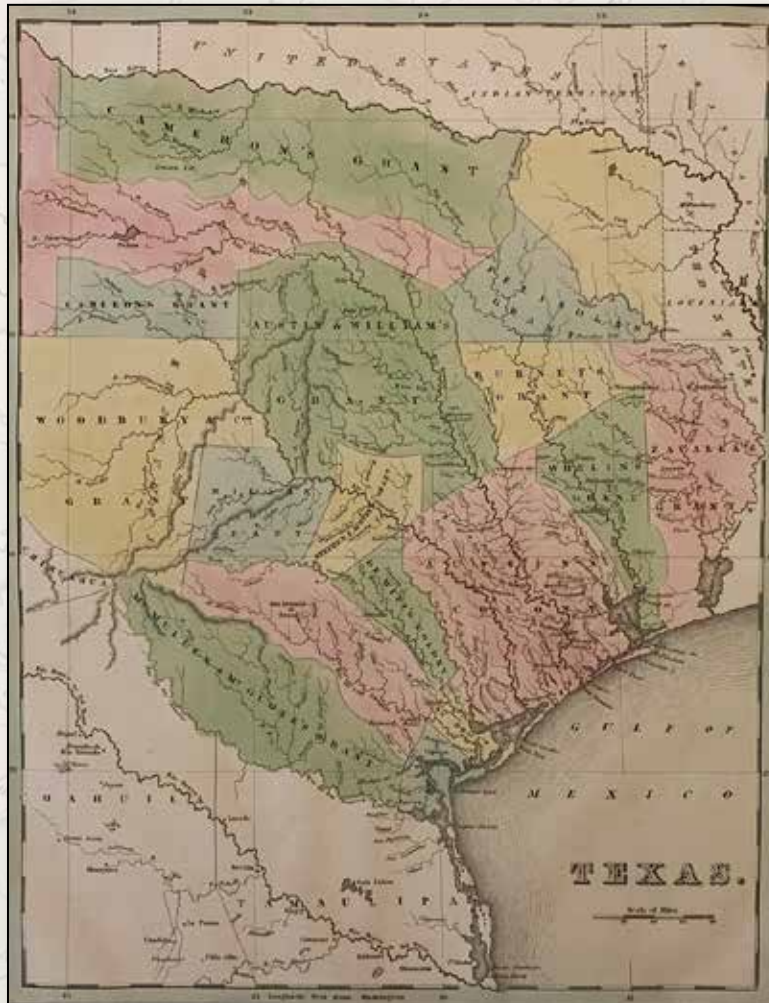


The NEATLINE

A NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS MAP SOCIETY

Issue 37 • Spring 2024

All Over the Map



**Texas Map Society 2024 Spring Meeting
May 3-4, 2024**

Austin, Texas • Texas General Land Office

Above Map: Texas. Thomas Gamaliel Bradford. Published in A Comprehensive Atlas (4th edition), 1838, Boston.

For more meeting information, please see pages 3-5

Scale of Miles

0 20 40 60 80

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Texas Map Society Members,

It appears that 2024 will be an excellent year for the organization as we have an interesting Spring meeting in Austin at the Texas General Land Office. Additionally, plans are underway for us to hold a joint meeting with the Society for the History of Discoveries (SHD) for our Fall Meeting in San Antonio.

I am also excited to bring the TMS to my cartographic home, the Texas General Land Office, in downtown Austin. We will have the opportunity to tour several of the great map collections in the state, several of which are at the University of Texas, the Ransom Center, the Benson Latin American Collection, and the Briscoe Center for American History.

It is also with a heavy heart that I mention the passing of Frank Holcomb. Frank was an avid map collector and friend. Frank was one of the most enthusiastic map collectors in the state. He and I would correspond regularly about the virtues of some maps versus others and which maps would make the most sense for exhibits or books or adding to his or the GLO's collection, depending on who initiated the cartographic question. Usually, when we talked about maps, it would turn into some fun/witty jokes about whatever topic we happened to land on that day. He was also generous enough to lend his maps to the GLO for several map exhibits around the state, including exhibitions at the Witte Museum and the Houston Museum of Natural Science, as well as letting the agency digitize the collection so we could share it with the world. For TMS members, the most memorable experience may have been in the Spring of 2023 when he and his lovely wife, Carol, welcomed us into their home and office to view their map collection as part of our Spring Meeting. It was a truly memorable experience and something that we were all lucky enough to participate in.

Finally, thank you to David Finrock for keeping this newsletter on track through the years. It is not easy to put together a quality publication on a regular basis.

—James Harkins, President, Texas Map Society



FROM THE EDITOR

I am very thankful for those TMS members who supply material for each edition of this newsletter, But I hope I can prevail on more of you to share some of your own knowledge of maps and cartography for future issues. Reviews of TMS meetings, or even a short article for the My Favorite Map feature would be much appreciated. That way I won't have to fill so much of the newsletter with my own posts.

I am very pleased though, to be able to share in this issue an article from the UTA libraries about my donation of Antarctic maps last year. The point of the donation is twofold – to preserve the maps for the future, and to give students and researchers new material for research. I was therefore very pleased when I was contacted recently by Candace Carlisle Vilas. She is a current PhD History student at UTA, with an area of interest in the History of Cartography and Printing Technology. She wants to use my Antarctic collection to help answer questions about the histories of exploration, discovery, and curiosity through space and time. I hope she may have something for me to publish in a future edition of *The Neatline*.

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*.

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Texas Map Society members and others who helped produce this issue are: Andrew Branca, David Finrock, James Harkins, Gerald Saxon, Brian Stauffer, Martin Van Brauman, the staff of the Texas General Land Office, and 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.

Texas Map Society Spring Meeting
All Over the Map
May 3-4, 2024 • Austin, Texas • Texas General Land Office

Schedule

Friday, May 3

Tours of Various Historical Map Collections at the University of Texas at Austin (Meet at Texas General Land Office Stephen F. Austin Building, Room 170 | 1700 N. Congress Ave., Austin, TX 78701 at 10:30 AM to Start Walking Tour)

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Tour of the Harry Ransom Center Map Collection

12:30 – 1:30 PM

Box Lunch

1:30 – 3:00 PM

Tour of the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History Map Collection

3:30 – 5:00 PM

Tour of the LLILAS Benson Latin American Studies and Collections Map Collection

5:15 – 6:15 PM

Pioneer Land Surveying of the Texas Capitol Mall with the Texas General Land Office Surveying Services Division

Saturday, May 4

Texas General Land Office, Stephen F. Austin Building, Room 170 (1700 N. Congress Ave., Austin, TX 78701)

8:00 AM

Doors Open / Check-in

9:00 – 9:15 AM

Opening Remarks by Texas Map Society President **James Harkins**

9:15 – 9:45 AM

Dr. Lila Rakoczy, GLO Education and Outreach Team Leader, Public History and Mapping in the GLO Archives and Records

9:45 – 10:15 AM

Rachel Mochon, Paper Conservator at the Harry Ransom Center, Historic Map Conservation and the Bleau Map

10:15 – 10:45 AM

Coffee Break

10:45 – 11:15 AM

Dr. Michael Wise – *Seeing Like a Stomach: Food, the Body, and Jeffersonian Exploration in the Near Southwest, 1804–1808*

11:15 – 12:00 PM

Student Panel

Abigail Cassity, Stephen F. Austin State University
African Cartography during the Dutch Golden Age

Madeline Wheeler, Stephen F. Austin State University
The Cassini Map of France: Triangulation and the Cartography of Absolutism

Dion Kauffman, University of Texas at Austin Cartographic
Accessibility: Processing the Stephen F. Austin Historical Map Collection at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History

12:00 – 1:00 PM

Lunch

1:00 – 1:45 PM

Dr. Alistair Maer, Texas Wesleyan University, and President of the Society for the History of Discovery
At the Water's Edge: Rediscovering Charles Wylde and England's 17th-century Maritime World

1:45 – 2:30 PM

Dr. Joaquin Rivaya-Martinez

Indigenous Borderlands: Native Agency, Resilience, and Power in the Americas

2:30 – 3:15 PM

Dr. Imre Demhardt

Puerto Rico and the Spanish-American War of 1898: Perceptions and Maps of a Caribbean Island

3:15 – 3:30 PM

Texas Map Society Business Meeting

3:30 – 4:30 PM

Tour of the Texas General Land Office Map Collection

Continued on page 4

All Over the Map *continued*

About Presentations

Dr. Lila Rakoczy

GLO Education and Outreach Team Leader

Putting the Map in StoryMaps: Public Outreach at the Texas General Land Office

The collections of the Texas General Land Office (GLO) Archives consist of 45,000 maps spanning six centuries and millions of land-related documents. In 2020, the Texas General Land Office (GLO) created Texas Hidden History, an ambitious initiative to reveal through visual storytelling the “hidden” layers of significance of items. The result has been seven (and counting) ArcGIS StoryMaps on a wide range of Texas history topics. The medium provides historical context, and for younger and especially visual learners, the inclusion of web maps, images, interactive elements, and even multimedia make for a more engaging learning experience. One especially exciting element has been the integration of geographic information system (GIS) maps created by GLO interns and staff. This presentation provides an overview of these diverse projects and a glimpse of those in development.

Rachel Mochon

Paper Conservator at the Harry Ransom Center

The Preservation and Conservation of Maps at the University of Texas at Austin

The Preservation & Conservation Division at the Harry Ransom Center (HRC) addresses the needs of a diverse collection of over 50 million items through preventive care, conservation treatment, research, and education. A leading humanities research center with an active reading room and exhibition galleries, the Ransom Center collection includes fine artwork, photography, books, manuscripts, and maps. Beginning in 2021, the Center spearheaded a new Campus Conservation Initiative (CCI) to support the conservation treatment of holdings in major UT Austin collection repositories, such as the UT Libraries and the Briscoe Center for American History. In library, archival, and artistic collections, maps serve a range of functions and possess varying informational values. Some maps were made to be folded and put in the pocket of a traveler, while others were intended to be framed and hung for decorative purposes. These functions, assignments of value, and the physical nature of these items inform how conservators approach their care and conservation treatment. To highlight these ranging considerations, this presentation will discuss the conservation treatment of several maps in the collections of the Ransom Center, the Briscoe Center for American History, and the Benson Latin American Collection. The case studies will cover issues of rolled versus flat storage, maps bound in books, digitization, and framing.

Dr. Michael Wise

Seeing Like a Stomach: Food, the Body, and Jeffersonian Exploration in the Near Southwest, 1804–1808

Student Panel

Abigail Cassity

Stephen F. Austin State University

African Cartography during the Dutch Golden Age

For centuries, most of the continent of Africa had been unknown to explorers in terms of both land and culture. Seventeenth-century cartography showed how the West viewed Africa as a curiosity with civilizations and cultures that were being newly explored by Europeans. The *Africae nova descriptio* by Willem Janszoon Blaeu is a fascinating example of this shift in the portrayal of Africa during the Early Modern Period. This paper addresses the culture of cartography during the Dutch Golden Age and the techniques that Blaeu used to influence consumer sales of his maps such as using allegory for aesthetics. This paper also looks at the trends of documenting the continent of Africa and its inhabitants during a time when Europeans were curious about the unknown associated with the country. Analyzing the *Africae nova descriptio* provides insight into the cartographer’s techniques, the geopolitical understanding of Africa, and the trends of the Dutch Golden Age.

Madeline Wheeler

Stephen F. Austin State University

The Cassini Map of France: Triangulation and the Cartography of Absolutism

Taking a step back to look at the complex work of mapmaking that is the Cassini Map of France reveals the advancements of cartography, mathematics, geodesy, and astronomy up to the 18th century. Four generations of one family and the patronage of French royalty, combined with the Royal Academy of Science, produced not only a near perfect map of France, but the most accurate map of any place on Earth at the time. The map was so accurate that it could only be rivaled by satellite images 300 years later. The publication of the map, nearly 100 years after the start of its creation, influenced other countries to invest in accurate cartography. The world began to come together in way that had not been seen before. The accuracy of the Cassini map of France changed expectations set on cartographers, shifted the role maps had in government, and elevated the necessity of maps being a symbol of power. This paper aims to explore the relationship between power and how one sees the world on a map. Currently historiography focuses on the science

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Click Here to Sponsor the Spring Meeting

<https://texasmapsocietyorg.files.wordpress.com/2024/02/sponsorship-form-editable.pdf>

All Over the Map *continued*

behind triangulation and while no one can deny the influence this technique would have on cartography, this map also offers a unique insight into the absolutist age. This paper hopes to encourage historians to consider cartography when looking at how a group of people sees the rest of the world and how maps can be representative of their philosophy and culture.

Dion Kauffman

University of Texas at Austin – Cartographic Accessibility:
Processing the Stephen F. Austin Historical Map Collection at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History

Currently, the Briscoe Center contains some 32,000 printed and manuscript maps, many of which are only searchable in a digitized card catalog. A portion of these maps come from the personal collection of Stephen F. Austin, a Texas colonizer, empresario, and statesman behind Austin's Colony, the first and largest Anglo-American settlement in Mexican Texas. In order to increase access to these cartographic resources, I devised my Master degree capstone project around processing the Stephen F. Austin map collection and creating a finding aid to accompany it. This presentation will describe the research and development behind this endeavor, general guidelines for processing similar map collections, and current standards for preservation storage.

Dr. Alistair Maeer

At the Water's Edge: Rediscovering Charles Wylde and England's 17th-century Maritime World

Born in 1620 to a life primed to the sea, Charles Wylde ranks among the earliest English overseas chart-makers. Apprenticed to one of the most prolific and respected nautical cartographers in London, Nicholas Comberford in 1637, Wylde went on to chart distant shores as both an East India Company and Royal Navy officer. As the only known formally trained English nautical cartographer to go to sea in the latter 17th century, his charts are unique expressions of English expectations and knowledge. In addition, surviving logbooks and journals describe his voyages and charts, valued experiences reinforced by letters from Samuel Pepys, the great 17th century London chronicler and leading naval administrator. By the time of his death in 1683, he had not only served in the EIC, trained four apprentices, but had also captained nine different Royal Navy warships. Alas, Charles Wylde is still an unknown; yet he ought to be remembered, especially since his surviving charts and journals offer distinct vantage points to gaze upon the dawn of English charting, expansionism, and imperial aspirations. Clearly, the rediscovery of Wylde is long overdue. This presentation aims to introduce you to an array of his charts and highlight what they reveal about England's maritime world.

Dr. Joaquin Rivaya-Martinez

Indigenous Borderlands: Native Agency, Resilience, and Power in the Americas

Despite the initial upheavals caused by the European intrusion in the Western Hemisphere, Native people often thrived after contact, preserving their sovereignty, territory, and culture, and shaping Indigenous borderlands across the Americas. Borderlands, in this context, are spaces where diverse populations interact, cross-cultural exchanges are frequent and consequential, and no polity or community holds dominion. Within the Indigenous borderlands of the Americas, Native peoples exercised considerable power, often retaining control of the land, and remaining paramount agents of historical transformation after the European intrusion. Conversely, European conquest and colonialism were typically slow and incomplete, as the newcomers struggled to assert their authority and implement policies designed to subjugate Native societies and change their beliefs and practices. In this presentation, I will discuss some of those processes in selected Indigenous borderlands with the help of historical and modern maps.

Dr. Imre Demhardt

Puerto Rico and the Spanish-American War of 1898: Perceptions and Maps of a Caribbean Island

While Texas voluntarily joined the United States and greatly benefitted, the island of Puerto Rico was forcefully annexed in 1898 but as a still 'unincorporated territory' received little attention. During the nineteenth century and still under Spanish sovereignty Puerto Rico made a modest economic progress and, unlike Cuba, ultimately even achieved limited self-governance. When the United States set its imperialist eyes on Cuba and the Philippines, Puerto Rico was a mere appendix. American forces landed in July 1898 and by the next month had 'liberated' autonomous Puerto Rico and turned it into a de facto colony. Because of the inability of the conquerors to trace significant Spanish topographic maps of Puerto Rico, they embarked on mid- and large-scale maps of the island, which, however, turned out to be a sort of reinvention of the wheel.

Register for this Event

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/97fymgr>

Hotel Information

Hampton Inn & Suites Austin @ The University/Capitol



1701 Lavaca Street
Austin, TX 78701)
\$184/Night

**Click Here to book room
at special rate by April 4:**

<https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/texas-map-society2024/>

MY FAVORITE MAP

Automobile Promotional Map of Texas

By David Finrock

In his iconic 1995 book, *The Shape of Texas*, Dr. Richard Francaviglia wrote:

“Texas-shaped ashtrays, belt buckles, earrings, kitchen utensils – “Texas kitsch” – fill gift shops alongside highways and in airports. The Lone Star State’s unmistakable shape is appropriated by advertisers to hawk everything from beans to automobiles inside Texas’ borders and beyond...

Over the years America’s most recognizable state outline has become one of its most potent symbols, a metaphor for Texas popular culture... The Texas map as icon integrates geography with history – and gives shape to a mythic landscape and to abstracted notions of what Texas is and who Texans are.”

One particular piece in my personal collection illustrates that not only is the shape of Texas instantly recognizable, but it even works in reverse.



The front of the map is a simple black and white map, hand cut to the borders of the state and illustrating the counties and cities in Texas. Of special interest is the circular hole cut into the Texas Panhandle. It appears this map was designed to be hung on doorknobs as a promotional flyer.

The promotional aspect becomes obvious when viewing the reverse side of the map. In brilliant red print, the advertisement grabs instant attention, even though the shape of Texas is reversed. The ad itself is for Mohr Buick, located at 7001 Harrisburg in Houston. Their advertising slogan is highlighted as “See Mohr and \$ave More”.

Continued on page 7

My Favorite Map *continued*

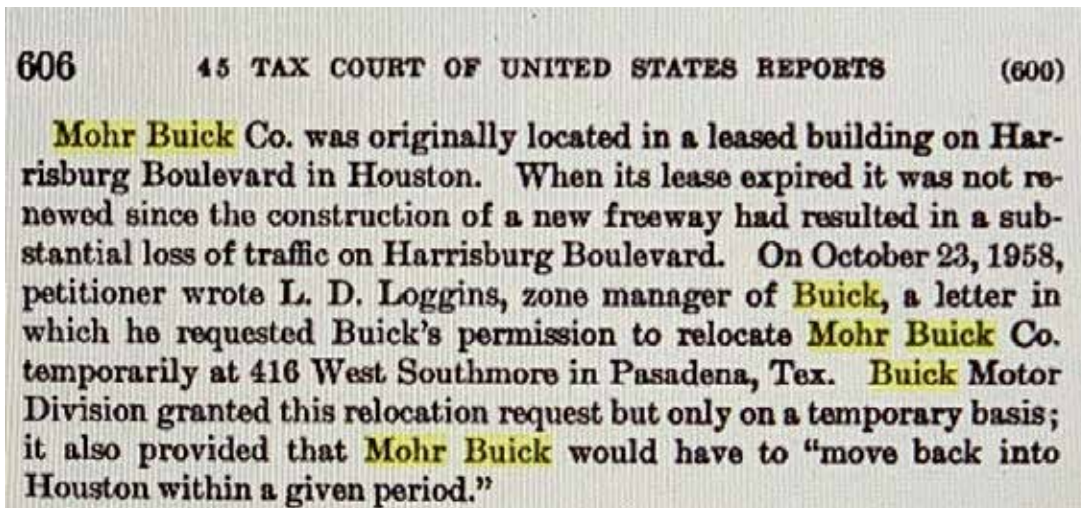
Aside from the shape of the map itself, what draws attention are the various depictions of the automobiles for sale (and their low prices). One is listed as a B-58 Buick Riviera.



That '58 is the only indication of a date on either side of this advertising flyer. There is no listing of a publisher, printer, or date or location of the map's creation. But we can presume it was a 1958 advertisement printed somewhere in Houston. And there is one more bit of evidence for that date. The ad's biggest and boldest font proclaims:

**TEXAS' BIGGEST AUTO DEALER *Closes Out* TEXAS' BIGGEST NEW CAR STOCK...
AT TEXAS' BIGGEST CLEARANCE DISCOUNTS.**

The reason for that clearance sale became more obvious when a search turned up the following document on page 606 in a publication entitled TAX COURT OF UNITED STATES REPORTS.



The Interstate Highway System was authorized by Congress and signed into law by President Eisenhower in 1956. It seems that construction of portions of Interstate 45 caused a substantial loss of traffic on Harrisburg Boulevard, forcing the dealership to move to a different location. The request to move to Pasadena was dated 23 October 1958.

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

Ben Huseman Retires from UTA Special Collections

By Gerald Saxon

Ben Huseman retired as the cartographic archivist for UTA's Special Collections at the end of December 2023. Ben came to UTA in 2006, following the retirement of Kit Goodwin, former secretary for the TMS and Special Collections' first cartographic archivist. I've known Ben and he has been my friend for many years, actually long before he came to UTA.

I knew Ben in his prior life as a staff member at SMU's DeGolyer Library, a consultant for Royd Riddell Rare Maps & Prints, and as a curator at the Amon Carter Museum. Our friendship goes back at least 30 years, so I've had the opportunity and pleasure to get to know him quite well.

When I think of Ben, three words come to my mind: enthusiastic, energetic, and smart—my mother would have said “smart as a whip.” Let me take these words—they really are characteristics—one at a time.

First, enthusiastic. Anyone who knows Ben, or has seen him teach, or make a presentation, knows that his enthusiasm is inspiring, engaging, and infectious. As Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, “Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.” And Ben exudes this enthusiasm in everything that he does, especially in his public talks and teaching. I think I've been in the audience for at least 20 of his presentations, and he is funny, articulate, and always well prepared. He connects with his audience and literally vibrates physically like a guitar string when giving talks. He makes an impact when he speaks, and you can't ask for more from a presenter.

The second word that best describes Ben is energetic. Ben has a youthful energy that allows him to make significant contributions at his job. And speaking of youthful, I'm not sure Ben has aged at all since I've known him. He still looks the same as he did 30 years ago. He personifies Oscar Wilde's famous character, Dorian Gray. I just hope he hasn't made the same deal with the devil to keep himself young! How does he do it? I'm sure his passion for his job helps. Passion is energy, and Ben's passion about maps, prints, paintings and drawings can be seen in his work. I'll just mention the excellent exhibits and gallery guides he has produced since coming to UTA. Most people don't know the amount of work that goes into curating a major exhibit and then writing a comprehensive gallery guide for it. Ben has done this for each of the nine Virginia Garrett Lectures that Special Collections has sponsored since he joined the staff. This is a major accomplishment, and the cartographic contributions each has made will be part of Ben's legacy.

The third word I used to describe Ben is smart. He is smart, and he “gets it.” What does he get, you might ask? Well, he knows that maps and images aren't just artifacts from the past that need accurate cataloging, proper handling and care, and to be developed into cohesive collections. He knows these things, of course. But he also knows that maps and other historical documents are essentially messages from the past that tell us how our predecessors saw the world, adapted to it, and ultimately changed it. More importantly, he is able to communicate this information and its relevance to diverse audiences, from scholars, to students, to the general public. And this is a rare trait indeed...and one that will be missed.

So an enthusiastic, energetic, and smart Ben Huseman retired from UTA, leaving Special Collections with a higher public profile than when he began. His expertise, good humor, ability to engage the public and donors, and skill in developing a cohesive and important map collection will be missed. Fred Rogers, the famous children's show host, once said, “Often when you are at the end of something, you're at the beginning of something else.” I know all of us who know Ben hope his “something else” is as rewarding and fulfilling as his time at UTA was.



Dr. Jack Franke and Special Collections Cartographic Archivist Ben Huseman. *Photo by Danny Grigg, UTA Libraries*



Sam Haynes presents a gift to Ben Huseman at his retirement party in late 2023. *Photo by David Finrock*

Imaginary Maps of Biblical Jerusalem

By Martin M. van Brauman

Some maps of Jerusalem present imaginary visions of the ancient city. Instead of connecting to more realistic maps based upon detailed recorded pilgrimages to the Holy Land, these maps depicted images of Jerusalem from descriptions in the Bible, the writings of Josephus Flavius and other written sources or from recognizable European representations, such as from church wall mosaics. These maps were to produce a reader's image of Jerusalem and Biblical events for spiritual contemplation and not for actual travel.

Six foremost types of imaginary map variants are epitomized by the following examples from the fifteenth to seventeenth century. The Schedel map represents the medieval image of Jerusalem in the *Nuremberg Chronicle* of 1493. Christiaan Adrichom's map of 1584 is an imaginary example influenced by Josephus Flavius and the 1563 "Heavenly" map of Adam Reisner. The Frans Hogenberg map of 1572 is an imaginary example influenced by Josephus and the Peter Laicstein imaginary map of 1570. The Wenceslaus Hollar's map of 1656 is an imaginary example influenced by the Johannes Villalpando map of 1605 based upon Ezekiel's vision and Josephus. The imaginary maps by Petrus Plancius in 1604 and Claes Visscher in 1642 are distinctive from the other visions of Jerusalem.

Although written during the early Renaissance, the *Chronicle* was written in the medieval tradition of an illustrated world history in relationship to the Bible. In the 1490s, Nuremberg was one of the largest cities in the Holy Roman Empire with a population between 45,000 to 50,000. The renaissance beginning in Italy had not reached Nürnberg in the last half of the fifteenth century.

The map was the printed representation of Jerusalem, a "bird's-eye" view of ancient Jerusalem with the emphases on Solomon's Temple, indicated as *Teplum Salomois*. The term *Teplum Salomois* is a Crusader appellation. Six gates are titled by the Crusader names, such as David's Gate that was also called the Gate of the Pisans after being rebuilt by the twelfth century Crusaders from Pisa.

The map depicted the city in the manner of a German medieval town with the city walls enclosing it. Contrary to Biblical descriptions, the Temple has three domes resembling a typical Byzantine church with a basilica. The depiction may have been influenced by medieval manuscript maps, Crusader maps and perhaps by a printed map. Burchard of Mount Zion's 1475 map in *Rudimentum noviciorum* represented Jerusalem as a city with circular walls surrounding castle-like European buildings. Wall mosaics in European churches during the Middle Ages portrayed Jerusalem with castle-like buildings enclosed by circular city walls. Ancient Jerusalem was presented in a manner that compared Jerusalem to the reader's personal familiarity of European cities and their preconceived images.



HIEROSOLIMA – derWerlt Blat
XVII (Jerusalem – from the Latin). Woodcut from **Hartmann Schedel's Nuremberg Chronicle (Weltchronik, Liber Chronicarum: Das Buch der Croniken und Geschichten)**, the most celebrated illustrated incunabula ever produced, rare 1493 German edition in Nürnberg. [Fig. 1]



IERUSALEM, ET SUBURBIA EIUS, SICUT TEMPORE CHRISTI FLORUIT, CUM LOCIS IN QUIBUS CHRIST PASSUS EST: QUAE RELIGIOSE A CHRISTIANIS OBSERVATA ETIA NU VENERATIONI HABENTUR DESCRIPTA PER CHRISTIANUM ADRICHOM DELPHUM, [Jerusalem and its Surroundings As it Flourished During the Time of Jesus with the Places Where Christ Walked: Which Religious Christians Observe With Reverence Described by Christiaan Adrichom of Delft] **COLONIAE AGRIPPINAE, ANNO CHRISTI 1584. Christiaan van Adrichomius**. [Fig. 2] This map is the very early First Plate 2nd edition from the *Theatrum Terrae Sanctae et Biblicarum Historiarum*, Köln, 1593.

Continued on page 10

Maps of Biblical Education *continued*

Along with dedication to the Archbishop of Cologne with the coat of arms of the office, there is a descriptive cartouche of the important officials in the upper left corner. Adrichom's imaginary and spiritual plan of Jerusalem oriented to the east and showing Jerusalem from the west was a very popular visualization of the city published in the sixteenth century. Although Adrichom's map was influenced by the 1563 map of Adam Reisner, Adrichom created a more detailed and elaborate version based upon the writings by pilgrims such as Burchard of Mount Sion and William Wey along with the Bible descriptions and the writings of Josephus Flavius.

Adrichom's image of Jerusalem as a rectangle divided by walls into three sections was based on a misinterpretation from the first century historian Josephus Flavius, who described Jerusalem as divided by three walls, including the lower city, the upper city and the new city (*Bezetha*) from *The Wars of the Jews or The History of the Destruction of Jerusalem*, Book 5, Chapter 4. The orderly grid of streets seem to be influenced from the writings by Josephus. The buildings reflect the ornate architecture of sixteenth century Europe, instead of the thick limestone buildings that have existed in Jerusalem.

Identified from the text are over 250 sites, including the ancient City of David, Mount Sion (Zion) and Mount Calvary. Adrichom's map was the first to depict the Stations of the Cross – the *Via Dolorosa*. His historical research fixed the Stations of the Cross to fourteen, which had varied from 11 to 31 in number and in location. He drew a bridge from the Mercy or Golden Gate, on the eastern side of the Temple Mount, across the Kidron Valley to the Mount of Olives. He was influenced by Jewish religious writings that a bridge once existed during Temple times. He placed Golgotha or Calvary and the burial cave outside the Old City walls at the time of the crucifixion.

A series of miniatures depict scenes from the life of Jesus, such as the triumphal entry on a donkey into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday (above the Temple) surrounded by disciples and preceded by a figure spreading palm branches in the road ahead (number 214), the Last Supper (number 6), praying in Gethsemane (top left center, inside picket fence), his judgment before Pilate (left central section, number 115), bearing the cross along the Via Dolorosa and his crucifixion on Mount Calvary (lower left corner, number 235). Other scenes depict the appearance of Jesus to his disciples (lower right) on the road to Emmaus and the Ascension from the Mount of Olives (top center). Other vignettes show the fig tree that Jesus cursed (top) and Judas Iscariot hanging from a tree after committing suicide (lower right corner).

The city is filled with buildings, portraying structures mentioned in the Bible and historical sources. Although the map focuses on the city and immediate surroundings at the time of Christ, the map also includes other previous periods of the city's history. There is no differentiation among historical periods from the tenth century BC to the first century AD, such as the palaces of David, Solomon, the Maccabees, Bernice, Herod, and Pilate, the house of Caiaphas, the Roman amphitheater and hippodrome. However, all palaces are drawn in the style of sixteenth century European buildings.

Vignettes depict details in Jewish history, such as the anointing of King Solomon, the Holy of Holies with the Ark of the Covenant and the high priest in the center of the Temple court in front of the altar with the menorah and the table of showbread. The Hebrew name of God – Jehovah – appears between the cherubim in the Holy of Holies above the Ark. Solomon is sitting on his throne, next to the Temple and near his palace. Scenes depict King David fighting against the Philistines in Baal-Perazim, the site where the prophet Isaiah was dissected with a saw, the site of pagan sacrifices to Moloch and Solomon's zoo.

Other anachronisms are numerous with the camps of various armies that besieged Jerusalem at different times, such as the eighth century BC Assyrians (far right), the sixth century Babylonians, Pompey, the Roman siege of 70 AD (far left) and Herod's camp (below). With Jerusalem being shown to have been attacked and destroyed many times through the centuries, the Biblical message proclaims that the eternal city of God's Jerusalem cannot ever be erased from human history.



HIEROSOLYMA, Clarissima totius Orientis civitas, Iudaeae Metropolis . . . Hoc tempore Hierosolyma turcis Cuzumobarech dicitur. (Jerusalem, the most famous City of the Orient and the Capital of Judea . . .), [Fig. 3]. Georg Braun and Frans Hogenberg Jerusalem map from the very rare Latin edition 1582, Köln, *Civitates orbis terrarum*, Vol. I, pg. 52. The *Civitates orbis terrarum* was the most extensive book on city plans published in the sixteenth century.

The engraver Hogenberg followed the Peter Laicstein map. Peter Laicstein, who worked around 1556 to 1570, was a Dutch geographer and astronomer and prepared a map of the Holy Land on a visit in 1556. Laicstein drew a pair of imaginary maps of Jerusalem entitled "A Map of the Ancient Jerusalem" and "A Map of the Modern Jerusalem." These maps are quite rare and lost and are known through this copy by Braun and Hogenberg and the Gerard de Jode maps.

Braun and Hogenberg printed both maps on this one sheet. The map of ancient Jerusalem with the walls and buildings are

Continued on page 11

Maps of Biblical Education *continued*

based on Josephus Flavius as the main source, portraying the city from the time of Melchizedek, the King of Salem, and the Jebusites to the time of the Crucifixion. All the events of the Holy Week, from Christ's entrance to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to his Crucifixion, are emphasized with tiny drawings representing the Station of the Cross.

The map depicts two bird's-eye views of Jerusalem. On the left side is *Descriptio antiquae vrbis Hierosolymorum, qua amplitudine et splendore tempore Christi Saluatoris nostri conspicua fuit*. This side is an imaginary topographic description of the ancient city during the Second Temple period. On the right is a topographical description of the "modern" city (sixteenth century Jerusalem), *Noua vrbis Hierosolymitanae descriptio, qua forma et situ nostro seculo se conspiciendam praebet*.

Both maps depict the same topographical layout, but do not represent any realistic landscape. Two primary hills surround the city with the hill, Zion, divided into three parts. Millo, the lower city, was the location of Herod's palace and the former location of King David's palace. The other part was the northern hill and the third part was divided into Mount Moriah the location of Solomon's Temple, and Acra with Bezerha, referenced as the "new city."

The disconformity between the two images and the real topography is shown by the fact that the Temple Mount, which should face east, is on the right side, while the Kidron Brook, which is also on the east side of the city, is depicted on the upper part of the image. The Tyropean Valley, which runs through the middle of the city, from north to southeast, is represented from south to northeast. In the middle of the plate, between the two maps, a list of city gates are identified by letters AA to HH. All gates by the ancient names are located on the ancient map, but only four are marked on the contemporary map.

On the top left, there is an historical text about Jerusalem, based upon Josephus Flavius. The right side text counts historical sites A to Z described in Holy Scriptures and the works of Josephus. The ancient Jerusalem map depicts walls and buildings based upon Josephus, portraying the city from the time of King David to the time of Jesus. The bottom right inset shows Moses on Mount Sinai receiving the Tablets of the Law with the High Priest Aaron on the right. Next to Aaron, there is a legend containing eighteen holy items pertaining to the priestly garments of the High Priest.

The contemporary city on the right, *Nova Urbis Hierosolymitana*, depicts the city as if it were well planned with houses and trees like a European village. The location on the modern map of the Dome of the Rock on the right side of the city and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre on the left corresponds to the location of the Temple and Golgotha on the ancient map. The "modern" map does locate several Moslem mosques marked by crescents on the building roofs.



VERA HIEROSOLYMAE VETERIS IMAGO, Wenceslaus Hollar Boh. fecit 1656 (1656 date engraved at the right bottom) [FIG. 4]. Wenceslaus Hollar. London. Very rare first map that was first printed in *Biblia Sacra polyglotta* in 1657 by printer Thomas Roycroft (1637-1677) at Bartholomew Close printing house and edited by Brianus Waltonus (T. B. Walton).

Hollar's plan of "ancient Jerusalem" was based upon the influential Villalpando map, in which the Hollar map was the very first map created after the Villalpando map. The Villalpando style map was adopted by mapmakers into the nineteenth century, as the Bird's eye view of ancient Jerusalem. This print was one of a series of eight such etchings executed by Hollar that derived from the work of the Spanish Jesuit, Johannes Baptista Villalpando.

Villalpando's Jerusalem map was an interpretation of Ezekiel's vision in the Book of Ezekiel and the analyses of the descriptions of sites mentioned by Josephus Flavius. The map did have some resemblance to the actual topography. Although the city walls follow an irregular shape, the map shows the city divided by a grid of streets following a regular plan.

Only a few important buildings are shown and identified. The Temple Mount was based upon the description in Ezekiel's vision, emphasizing the division of the Temple court into nine square-shaped courts. Ezekiel saw a vision of the future city and proclaimed a very detailed plan for the construction of the future Temple, when Jerusalem laid in ruins and the nation was weeping in its Babylonian exile. Christian commentary interpreted this vision by the prophet as the New Jerusalem in *Revelation 21*. Solomon's ancient Temple was the symbol of the heavenly Jerusalem "to come" with the belief that Ezekiel's vision represented also Solomon's ancient Temple.

Based upon the interpretation of Josephus, an inner wall divides the city into two main sections, which are subdivided. The northern part of the city includes Mt. Acra and The City of

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Salem of Melchizedek and the lower section is identified as Bezeta. Another quarter is called *The New City*, which shows a theater, the house of Pilate and the *Acra of Antiochus*. The south part of the city, called *Mount Zion*, is circled by a wall, which defines the *City of David* with the king's palace in the middle and with the hippodrome and the upper market. The *Civitas David* is a circular walled castle structure in the top left with a fortified square keep ("kype") in the center. The medieval keep was built within a castle and was the last refuge for the defenders during a battle.

Various historical sites are illustrated outside the city such as *Absalom's Tomb*, *Gethsemane*, the *Mount of Olives*, the *Tombs of the Kings* and the site of the *Crucifixion* identified as *Mons Calvaria*. Also, there is *Ager Fulloni*, the cliffs of the Hinnom Valley and *Hakal-Dama*, the field bought with the thirty pieces of silver by Judas Iscariot, south of the city. Surrounding the city are the camps of various armies that besieged the city throughout its history that sends the message of the eternal city of God.



[IERUSALEM] *Waerachtige beschryvinge vande wjdvermaerde Conincklike Hoofst Stadt Ierusalem; waerinne oogenschynelick verthoont wordt de eigentlicke gelegendhejdt vande oude ende gevoegt de afbeeldinge vande Wooninge, ende Tempel Gods met = te Arke des Verbonds, ende den Genadenstoel mette Cherubinen; met de goude Tafel der Thoonbrooden, gouden Luchter, Wie = roockaltaer, Offeraltaer, copere Zee, ende coperen gestoelten, mette ketelen daer toe gehoorende, Auct. D.R.M. Masthis Gedruckt tAmstelredam by Jan Evertsz. Cloppenborch, met Privilegie voor 8. Jaeren.* [Fig. 5] Amsterdam, second state of Petrus Plancius' 1604 map, published 1624 in which D.R.M. Mathes replaced Pet. Planc. in the 1604 map.

The map depicts the plan of ancient and imaginary Jerusalem in Roman times, surrounded by 15 medallions depicting the Biblical Tabernacle, the Temple and other religious events from Exodus to 1st Kings. Clockwise, the first illustration from Exodus 25 (*Exod. 25 ca*) was the offering for the Tabernacle in the wilderness on the table of acacia wood with four gold rings holding up the poles to carry the table.

The following medallion (*Exod. 25 cap*) shows the Ark of acacia wood with poles and cherubim with wings spread over the Ark. The illustration (*Hes: 4 cap*) may represent from *Nehemiah 4* the

rebuilding of the wall. Under 1st Kings 7 (*1 Reg. 7 cap*), the next illustration shows one of the moveable stands of bronze with four bronze chariot wheels, supporting a basin and four handles. From 1st Kings (*1Reg. 7 cap*) is the illustration of the Sea of cast metal, circular in shape, held up by twelve bulls facing outward. The illustrations, under *1Reg. 6 cap* medallion and the two medallions below, depict Solomon's Temple and the Temple areas.

The next medallions (*Exod: 28 cap*) show the Priestly Garments of Aaron, (*Exod: 26 cap*) the Tabernacle in the desert, and (*Exod: 27 cap*) the lamp burning before the Lord in the clouds above from evening till morning outside the Tent of Meetings and the altar of acacia wood for burnt offerings with a horn at each corner and poles. Medallions for *Exod: 26 cap* show the upright frames of acacia wood for the Tabernacle and the curtains of finely twisted linen and yarn. The last medallion (*Exod: 26 cap*) shows the lampstand with six branches.

The bottom of the map is unusual as the Temple area is shown, but not the walled-up Eastern Gate. In the top of the map, Calvary with the three crosses is outside the city walls. The layout of the city is unlike other Dutch Bible maps of Jerusalem. It has the street layout style of Adrichom's Jerusalem map, but is different from all other maps of imaginary Jerusalem, such as the popular Visscher maps [Fig. 6] or the Villalpando maps [Fig. 3]. The buildings, the market places and tree-lined vegetation resemble a wealthy European town.



De Heylige en Wytvermaerde Stadt Ierusalem Eerst Genaemt Salem Genesis 14, Vers 18. Uytgegeven door Nicolaus Visscher met Privel: vande Gr^t: Mog: H.H. Staten van Hollandt en West-Frieslandt voor 15 Jaeren [Fig. 6]. Published by Nicolaes J. Visscher I with privilege for 15 years by the State of Holland and West Friesland in Amsterdam, Dutch State Bible, 1648, copperplate engraving, 2nd state of the engraving by Claes J. Visscher.

The 1st state by Claes Visscher was engraved in 1642. The map title references the Holy city of Jerusalem's beginning in *Genesis 14:18* as first named Salem under King Melchizedek. The bottom of the map has the Claes Visscher monogram with the "C", "I" and "V" combined into a barb fishhook with the rest of his name

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as *isscher* followed by *Excud.* Bottom right shows the placement of this map number 4 in the Dutch Bible: *Dese Kaerte wert gestalt voor het 3 Cap. Nehemia.* This map was placed before Chapter 3 of Nehemiah in the Dutch Bible.

The source of the Jerusalem map was from the 1630 plan printed by the Lünenburg theological publishers and engravers Johann and Heinrich Stern, who worked from 1623 to 1665. Johann von Stern (1582-1656) and Heinrich von Stern (1592-1665) were publishers in Lünenburg. They focused on religious works, hymnals and Lutheran Bibles. Lünenburg was a Hanseatic City in Lower Saxony, 50 km southeast of Hamburg, and became part of the Electorate of Hanover in 1708. Visscher copied their engraved plan of the 1630 Biblical Jerusalem map. The Sterns' version is extremely rare.

Jerusalem is viewed from the West to emphasize the area of the Crucifixion story. Usually, Jerusalem maps are oriented from the East as viewed from the Mount of Olives and emphasize the Golden Gate and Solomon's Temple. The map has a legend locating 40 religious sites and buildings on a banner held up by an eagle, *Verklaringe der Cyfer Getalen* (Explanation of popular sites). The map shows the city with Solomon's Temple and Herod's palace (17. *Herodis Paleys*) and the details of its streets and markets surrounded by the city walls. The famous Golden Gate or Eastern Gate (10. *De Gulden Oste Oost Poorte*) and Solomon's Temple (A. *Tempel Salomons op den Berch Merick*) are located in the top center of the map.

A scene shows Solomon in the bottom right being anointed as King (*Salomon tot Coningh gesalst op den Berch Gihon. 1. Reg.1.*). The bottom left scene shows the Crucifixion of Jesus on Mount Cavalry (*Golgotha oste Den Bergh van Calvarien*) with the grave nearby (*'t Graf Christi*). With the western orientation, the scene of the Crucifixion on the lower left conforms to the future location of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. The very large Crucifixion scene and the anointing by God through the high priest of King Solomon in the scene on the right demonstrate what was significant for the Christian reader of events from the Old and New Testaments. The anointing of Solomon symbolized the anointing by the Church of European kings with the divine right from God.

CONCLUSION

Although maps are a means of communicating knowledge, they cannot be separated from the collective context of the political, religious, cultural and societal norms. These maps present an interpretation of the geographical and topographic features of Jerusalem from a European perspective through the window of the Christian and Jewish narratives from the Bible. The maps represent and demonstrate cartographically a Christian appropriation of the Holy Land and especially Jerusalem, since the maps were for a Christian audience.

For both Christian and Jewish people as they read through Scriptures, the mental image of Jerusalem was of the time of King Solomon and later the rebuilding of the 2nd Temple period and not of thoughts of the "contemporary" Jerusalem of their time. Christian and Jews wanted to see maps of the glorious times of Jerusalem as described in the Bible, not maps of a Muslim dominated city. The Muslim presence in Jerusalem was not acceptable by the Christian mapmakers and the European population until the nineteenth century.

Jerusalem has been the focus of the spiritual world for Christians and Jews. The imaginary maps represented a visual interpretation and authenticity of Scriptures to communicate the sanctity of the Holy City of Jerusalem and its importance to the faithful. With this spiritual image of Jerusalem, religious officials and books on the Holy Land in Christian Europe debated for new crusades over the centuries to reconquer Jerusalem and rescue the Holy sites from the Muslims.

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Maps of Biblical Education *continued*

Endnotes

- ¹ Reahav Rubin, *Image and Reality, Jerusalem in Maps and Views*, Jerusalem: The Hebrew University Magnes Press (1st ed. 1999), pp. 110-148 (see the discussion of imaginary maps by Rubin).
- ² Eran Laor, *Maps of the Holy Land: Cartobibliography of Printed Maps, 1475-1900*, New York: Alan R. Liss, Inc., 1986, p. 1123 (describes the Latin edition in July 1493, 1125A mentions the German edition of December 1493 for the “Destruction . . .”); Kenneth Nebenzahl, *Maps of the Holy Land: Images of Terra Sancta through Two Millennia*, New York: Abbeville Press, (1st ed. 1986), p. 63; Zev Vilnay, *The Holy Land in Old Prints and Maps*, Jerusalem: Rubin Mass, Publisher, 2nd ed. enlarged, 1965 pp. 15, 63. Maps and illustrations were cut in wood by Michael Wohlgemut, painter and master/teacher of Albrecht Dürer. The printer was the famous Anton Koberger.
- ³ During the late 15th century, the idea of “bird’s-eye,” or panoramic, views of towns, spread throughout Europe from Italy.
- ⁴ Nebenzahl, p. 32, Plate 9, pp. 60-61, Plate 20; P.D.A. Harvey, *Medieval Maps of the Holy Land*, London: The British Library, 1st ed. 2012, p. 24, illustration 16, pp. 148-149.
- ⁵ Rubin, pp. 18-19
- ⁶ Laor 934, page 128 illustration; Nebenzahl 90-91; Rubin, pp. 110-116; Ariel Tishby, *Holy Land in Maps*, Jerusalem: The Israel Museum, (1st ed. 2001), p. 30; Michael Avi-Yonah, David H.K. Amiran, Julius Jotham Rothschild and H.M.Z. Meyer, *Jerusalem: The Saga of the Holy City*, Delray Beach, Levenger Press, (facsimile ed. 2006), Plate VIII. Adrichom (1533-1585) left his manuscript of *Theatrum Terrae Sanctae* with publisher George Braun in Cologne after his death.
- ⁷ This map first appeared in his small booklet *Urbis Hierosolyma Depicta*, containing only this Jerusalem map in 1584. Adrichom passed away in 1585 and his Jerusalem map together with his other maps of the Hebrew tribes were published in 1590 in Cologne in the first edition of *Theatrum Terrae Sanctae*. All of the following four editions of 1593, 1600, 1613 and 1628 are the same with the same date of 1584. The difference between the editions are determined by the slowly appearing and then extending of thin ink lines due to the starting of cracks on the original first plate that was used for the 1593, 1600 and 1613 Cologne editions. The 1613 and 1628 editions produced in Delft were produced on a new plate without the thin ink lines.
- ⁸ *Rx^{mo} et Sllustr.mo^{D.D} Ernesto Archiep. Colon. S. Ro. Imp. Princ. Elect. et per Italiam Archicancell. Episc. Leod. Administ Hil des. et Frising. Princ in Stabel. Com. Palat Rheni sup. et inf. Bava. Westp. Angar. et Bulli Duc. March Franci mont. & Christ. Adricho Delp. dedic.*
- ⁹ Adam Reisner (1496-1575) taught theology and published in 1563 *Iervsalem, vetvstissima illa et celeberrima totivs mvndi civitas* in Frankfurt, which contained the “Heavenly Jerusalem” map. See Rubin, pp. 112, 115.
- ¹⁰ Burchard of Mount Sion was a German priest and Dominican friar from Magdeburg, who traveled to the Holy Land from 1274 to 1284, describing towns and places, and wrote in 1283 *Descriptio Terrae Sanctae* about his pilgrim travels with maps. See Nebenzahl, p. 62.
- ¹¹ William Wey, English pilgrim who visited the Holy Land in 1458 and 1462 and described the Stations of the Cross.
- ¹² Whiston, William, trans., *Josephus, The Complete Works*, Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, (1998 ed.).
- ¹³ *Luke 24: 13 ff.*
- ¹⁴ *Exodus 39: 36.*
- ¹⁵ *2 Samuel 5.*
- ¹⁶ Georg Braun, a German theologian, was born and died in Köln. As a Catholic cleric, he spent 37 years as canon and dean at the church St. Maria ad Gradus in Köln. From 1572 to 1617, he published and edited the 6 volume *Civitates Orbis Terrarum*, which included 363 views and city plans – the greatest book of towns. His 6 volume work was inspired by Münster’s *Cosmographia*, but resembles the 1570 edition of Abraham Ortelius’ *Theatrum orbis terrarum*. He was assisted by Ortelius. The *Civitates* was intended as a companion publication to the *Theatrum*, but was designed to be more practical in approach by the collection of city plans and views for a more commercial use than an atlas. The *Civitates* provided a comprehensive view of urban life at the end of the 16th century.
- ¹⁷ Frans Hogenberg, a prominent Flemish and German engraver, cartographer, and publisher. He was born in Mechelen, south of Antwerp, the son of wood engraver and etcher Nicolas Hogenberg. During the 1550s, Frans worked in Antwerp with Ortelius and engraved many maps for Ortelius’ first atlas, published in Antwerp in 1570, *Theatrum Orbis Terrarium*. Later, Ortelius supported Hogenberg with information for the *Civitates orbis terrarium* with Georg Braun. With Georg Braun, Hogenberg created the tables and engraved maps in Volumes I through IV.
- ¹⁸ Laor 1039, Fig. page 150, (Laor does not describe this Latin edition); Rubin 136-139, Fig. 85, 136 (dating of 1572 on page 136 of the book is incorrect); Rubin, “Jerusalem in Braun and Hogenberg Civitates,” *The Cartographic Journal*, 33:2, 119-129 (1996). Latin text is on one side of the verso pages, *Ierosolyma*. The very first edition was the Latin edition in 1572. The map was published in Latin, German and French until 1645 with changing verso texts and after that by Jan Jansson with an unchanged image. The plates to the *Civitates* were acquired later by Jan Jansson and his heirs. The Latin editions were published from 1572 to 1635 and later by Jansson. All editions except 1572 have the addition “cum privilegio” (for state 2 plate), which is located in the frame caption above the sun in the illustration of Moses at Mount Sinai (right bottom corner). On both maps are figures from 1 to 39, which mark important sites, but the legend does not exist on the map or the verso and thus assumes the maps were copied from earlier maps omitting the legend.
- ¹⁹ Gerard de Jode, a Flemish mapmaker (1509-1591) working in Antwerp had two similar maps on two separate sheets printed by Vincent Houdaen in 1570, which in turn copied Peter Laicstein’s maps.
- ²⁰ The cartouche text reads as follows: *Jerusalem, most famous city in the whole Orient and capital of Judaea, lay on two hills that rise above all the other surrounding elevations. These two hills were separated by a densely populated valley. (Josephus calls it Tyropoeon in Book 6 of his Jewish War.) The higher of the two hills is called Sion and is itself subdivided into three lesser elevations. In Chapter 5 of the Second Book of Kings, the first of these is called Mello, beside Mount Gion; here was built the ancient stronghold of Siloe that was occupied by the Jebusites and conquered by David, who also brought the Ark of the Covenant here and chose this site as his burial place. The Franciscan monastery, called Sion, was constructed on this very spot. Another elevation on the east side of Sion is called the Lower Town, where David’s palace lay. He also resided here in person before he had conquered the Jebusite camp on the Mello. On another hill to the north lay Herod’s palace. These three hills were surrounded by a common wall and are called the city of David. The other main hill has two parts, the first of which is called Solomon’s palace, on the south side of the same mountain. Because the Temple stood on this hill, it was also surrounded by a wall and thereby connected to the city of David. The other part of this second main hill, opposite Mount Moriah and lying to its east, was called Acra. Its middle part was called Bezetha, which means “New Town”. It, too, was surrounded by walls. Another middle part of Acra, opposite the Cedron Stream, includes the palace of the Assyrians; this was a suburb enclosed by walls. Thus the five hills of Jerusalem described here were surrounded by altogether four different circumference walls. Jerusalem is at the present time called Cuzumoharech by the Turks.*
- ²¹ *Exodus 39: 1-30.*
- ²² Laor 1042.

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- ²³ Václav (Wenceslaus) Hollar was born in Prague on July 13, 1607 and died on March 25, 1677 in London and buried at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster. His family was ruined by the *Sack of Prague* during the Thirty Years' War. He went to Frankfurt in 1627 to train as an engraver in the workshop of Matthäus Merian and became one of the most famous engravers of topographical views in the 17th century. Later, he moved to Strasbourg in 1630 and then to Cologne in 1633. During 1637, Hollar finally settled in London as an artist in service to Thomas Howard, the 21st Earl of Arundel. With the English Civil War, he fought on the Royalist side. During the unrest of the Civil War, he escaped to Antwerp to work and then returned to London in 1652.
- ²⁴ Thomas Roycroft was famous for his printing of the Polyglott Bible and the maps of ancient Jerusalem.
- ²⁵ Johannes Baptista Villapando (1552-1608) was born in Córdoba, Spain and was an architect and scholar. He studied geometry and architecture. He joined the Society of Jesus in 1575 and was a Jesuit monk in Rome. He was a scholar on the prophet Ezekiel and with the support of King Philip II published *Ezechielem explanations et apparatus Urbis, as temple Hierosolimitanti*, I-III, Roma 1596-1604 with Hieronimus Pradus about the interpretation of the Book of Ezekiel in three volumes. The second and third volumes discuss the Temple in Ezekiel's vision. The drawings in volume III (1604) were based on assumptions that buildings in ancient Jerusalem were inspired by God under the laws of geometry. See Rubin, pp. 123-128; Laor, 1148.
- ²⁶ *Ezekiel 40-43*.
- ²⁷ Laor 1101; Poortman, Wilco C. and Joost Augusteijn, *Kaarten in Bijbels (16e – 18e eeuw)*, Zoetermeer: Uitgeverij Boekencentrum, 1995 ed., 79, page 136.
- ²⁸ Petrus Plancius was born Pieter Platevoet in Dranouter (now Heuvelland) in West Flanders. He was trained as a clergyman in Germany and studied theology, history and languages and in England studied mathematics, astronomy and geography. He became an expert in geography, cosmography and navigation. At some point, he Latinized his name from Platevoet to Plancius, which was common among learned men. In 1576, he became a pastor in West Flanders, a province of Belgium. Later, he went in 1576 to Mechelen, Brussels and Louvain. In the 1580s, he stayed in Brussels until the city surrendered to Alexander Farnese, the Duke of Parma and King Philip II of Spain's governor general in the province. After fleeing prosecution by the Inquisition in Brussels in 1585, he settled in Amsterdam with many other Protestants and intellectuals and became a pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church from December 1585 until his death on May 15, 1622.
- ²⁹ This map was printed by H. Jan Evertszoon Cloppenborch (1571-1648), who was famous for printing Dutch Bibles. The map was the fourth map of the series of six Biblical maps by Plancius, which was first published in the Planicus Bible in Amsterdam in 1604 by Laurens Jacobzon. H. Jan Evertszoon was a Dutch cartographer based in Amsterdam. Dutch text is on both sides of the verso pages with the title *Beschryvinghe van IERUSALEM* (Description of Jerusalem). The verso pages provide information on the distances from major cities in the Middle East and Europe to Jerusalem.
- ³⁰ Poortman, 121, page 183 (2nd state); Poortman 86, page 146 (1st state); Laor 1155, illustration 167; Rubin 140, Fig 88 (1643 Claes Visscher Small 2nd state). The Dutch title on verso page reads *Beschrijvinge van Jerusalem*.
- ³¹ Claes Jansz Visscher was born in Amsterdam and was the son of Jan Claesz Visscher, a ship's carpenter. Claes Visscher was named after his grandfather, who was a fisherman. The image of a fisherman and usually with two fishing poles became the signature for the family work as engravers, printmakers and publishers. Claes Jansz began as a printmaker and in 1605 worked for Willem Jansz Blaeu as an etcher. Blaeu published a number of Visscher's individual etchings from designs by David Vinckboons, one of Claes' early teachers. Thousands of prints were produced in Visscher's workshop and many biblical prints were the core business. Nicolaes Visscher I continued the family business under the sign of the fisherman as a publisher rather than making prints. His son Nicolaus Visscher II also worked with him and continued the family business as publisher.
- ³² *Verklaringe der Cyfer Getalen: A. Tempel Salomons op den Berch Merick; B. Berch Syon oste Overstadt Davids; C. De Onder Stadt de Dochter Syon; D. Bezetha dat is de Hieuwe Stadt; 1. De Oude oste Iebus Poorte; 2. De Hof oste Parady's Poorte; 3. De Vreuwen – toarens Poorte; 4. Ephraims Poorte; 5. Benjamins oste Hoeck – Poorte; 6. De Paerde Poorte; 7. De Regen oste Slick – Poorte; 8. De Genath oste Mest – Poorte; De Dal oste Vee – Poorte; 10. De Gulden oste Oost Poorte; 11. De Fonteyn Poorte; 12. De Ioorn Siloe; 13. Des Conings Hof Poorte; 14. Opper Priesters Poorte; 15. Davids oste vis Poorte; 16. De Yser Poorte; 17. Herodis Paleys; 18. Den Hof Gethsemane; 19. Akeldama oste Acker des Bloets; 20. Molochs Tempel; 21. Het Dal Hinnom Ihopet; 22. De Poorte Syon; 23. De Burcht Syon; 24. Den Tabernakel op Gabaon; 25. Het Graf Davids; 26. Schon – Spel Huys; 27. De Heydensche Schole; 28. 't Slot Antonio; 29. Bethesda oste Schaeps – vyver; 30. Den Hoogen Ioorn Ophel; 31. Voorhof der Heydenen; 32. Voorhof Israels; 33. Voorhof der Priesteren; 34. De Fondament Poorte; 35. Den Altaer des Brant – Offers; 36. Salomons Paleys.*
- ³³ See Noga Collins-Kreiner, "Maps and Meaning: Reading the Map of the Holy Land," *The Qualitative Report*, Vol. 10, No. 2, June 2005, pp. 257-275.

UTA Libraries Receives Collection of Antique Maps of Antarctica

By Andrew Branca, UTA Libraries

The story of Antarctica can now be explored in the UTA Libraries Special Collections Department through a recent donation of 150 antique maps and hundreds more stamps and postal covers. The collection came to the university from NBC 5's meteorologist David Finfrock.

Finfrock stated that these items tell the history of Antarctica, the explorers who braved unknown dangers, and the scientists who continue to work there today.

His interest in geography started at a young age, growing to encompass Antarctica.

"My father was a geologist, and we had traveled across the country. We had maps that we would color in each state we visited," Finfrock said. "That really teaches you a love of geography and maps when you can associate a place with something on a sheet of paper or now a digital map."

Finfrock's interest in Antarctica grew as he learned about some explorers who made the trip into the unknown. Explorers such as Sir Ernest Shackleton led three British expeditions to Antarctica in the early 20th Century and survived a shipwreck that grabbed Finfrock's attention.

Over the years, Finfrock wrote letters to scientists working at research stations on the continent. He got replies from them with the correspondence postmarked from Antarctica. Some of these stamps were from American, Russian, and British scientists.

Finfrock's map collection grew not only to encompass Antarctica but Texas. He noted that his wife, Shari Finfrock, has deep Texas roots. She is a descendant of one of Stephen F. Austin's settlers.

About 20 years ago, Finfrock got the chance to visit the place he had learned so much about for years.



David Finfrock examines some of the donated maps.



Ben Huseman receives the Antarctic map donation at UTA.

"On my 50th birthday, my wife said, 'why don't you go to Antarctica?' because it was something that I always wanted to do. I got to take a tourist trip flying down from DFW to the southern tip of South America and sailing across the Drake Passage," he said. "Exploring Antarctica, I got to see the different wildlife there and the different varieties of penguins, birds, and seals."

With his connection to the university through the Texas Map Society and as a member of the advisory board with the Center for Greater Southwestern Studies, Finfrock thought that UTA would be a great permanent home for the collection. He noted that the collection contains maps from several different eras of exploration and discovery. There are maps from the earliest expeditions of Captain James Cook through the present day, including British Admiralty charts, and maps chronicling Charles Wilkes and Admiral Richard Byrd's expeditions.

"It is a pretty extensive collection that I was proud to bring together and even prouder to provide here so that there will be a home to these maps," he said. "Scholars and students will be able to benefit from them instead of them sitting in a drawer."

The Antarctica maps and stamps collections can be viewed in the Special Collections Department on the Sixth Floor of the UTA Central Library building. Special Collections is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

Link to four minute video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t0xxUWSvVNM>

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Best Laid Plat: Exploring Hybrid Urban Planning in Mexican Texas via Interactive StoryMap

By Brian Stauffer, Director of Public Services, Texas General Land Office Archives and Records

Texans have long turned to the Texas General Land Office (GLO) for maps and other tools used to display and organize information about the state's rich history. Since 2014, one such GLO initiative is Texas Hidden History (THH), a collaborative project between the GLO's Archives and Records program and its Geospatial Technology Services team. In 2020 the initiative was expanded to use Esri GIS software to produce narrative StoryMaps on Texas history topics that align with GLO collections strengths.

This July marks the 200th anniversary of the founding of San Felipe de Austin, headquarters of Empresario Stephen F. Austin's colony and de facto capital of Anglo Texas during the Mexican period. Though the town's Mexican-era development proved rocky and ultimately ended in fire and flight, the creation of San Felipe inaugurated a colonization movement that transformed Texas between 1824 and 1836, a period littered with historical signposts all approaching bicentennial status over the next twelve years.

Given its centrality to this broader story, San Felipe deserves a closer examination as an experiment in frontier urban planning. The GLO Archives, whose holdings include a wealth of original records related to Austin's Colony, is an ideal place to begin. Chief among its archival treasures is a one-of-a-kind plat of San Felipe de Austin, made by surveyor Seth Ingram and copied into the so-called [Registro](#), a hand-made compilation of the land records of Austin's first contract dating to 1827-28. Functioning as part of the town's 1824 title and made to Austin's specifications, the plat offers a fascinating window into the empresario's attempts to adapt Anglo-American community-building traditions to Mexican standards.



[Seth Ingram, Stephen F. Austin, and Samuel May Williams], *Plan de la Villa de Austin*, 1828, Map #94116, General Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX (hereafter, TGLO).

In fact, the plat is in many ways a blueprint for an experiment in hybridization, one which would meld Anglo and Mexican traditions of city-planning and self-government and connect northern Mexico to the burgeoning U.S. cotton trade. San Felipe's lived reality never quite matched Austin's vision, yet its successes and challenges can teach us a lot about the Mexican period of Texas history in general.



[Left:] Detail from Stephen F. Austin and H.S. Tanner, *Map of Texas with Parts of the Adjoining States*, 1830, Map #94440, Holcomb Digital Collection, TGLO. [Right:] "Stephen F. Austin," n.d., in Katie Daffan, *Texas Heroes: A Reader for Schools* (Boston: Benj. H. Sanborn & Company, 1912), 58. Image courtesy of the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

To commemorate the beginning of this momentous experiment, the GLO Archives has created [Best Laid Plat: San Felipe de Austin in Vision and Reality, 1823-1836](#), an ArcGIS StoryMap that combines archival documents and maps, digital storytelling methods, and modern GIS technology. *Best Laid Plat* uses the Austin/Ingram survey plat as a jumping off point for exploring the rise, fall, and rebirth of San Felipe de Austin. After examining the influence of the Mexican municipal tradition on the town's creation, the project analyzes the growing gap between Austin's vision and the complicated reality of colonial settlement, a disjuncture that ultimately doomed San Felipe and Mexican Texas as a whole.

"San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site benefits greatly from the dedicated work by staff and stakeholders at the Texas General Land Office. Our staff are able to draw a direct line from the historic people and events that are part of the town's fabric to the impressive and important collections managed by the GLO archives, said Bryan McAuley, San Felipe de Austin site manager. "*Best Laid Plat* represents a vibrant and engaging offering as we

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San Felipe *continued*

collectively work to revive and share the stories of an important Texas town that is ripe for rediscovery by history-loving Texans and visitors to Texas alike.”

This article serves as a companion piece to the StoryMap, whose narrative structure it mirrors while offering previews of the new maps and interactive features found therein. Click the link to view the StoryMap.



StoryMap slider feature showing georeferenced plat.

San Felipe and the Spanish and Mexican Municipal Tradition

The Austin/Ingram plat of San Felipe offers the image of a fully formed, orderly town replete with straight streets, tidy urban and suburban plots, and ample public space to support a rich civic and cultural life. In reality, of course, the plat represents a blueprint rather than a snapshot; the community aspirational rather than preexisting. Moreover, Austin’s vision for the town drew on a much longer municipal tradition in New Spain and Mexico—a tradition explored briefly in the first section of the StoryMap.

As early as the 1570s, Spanish monarchs had issued formal urban planning regulations for Mexico, an especially important



Colonial urban planning in central Mexico involved required accommodating preexisting Indigenous cities, such as Tenochtitlán (Mexico City). John Ogilby, *Nova Mexico*, 1673, Map #95132, General Map Collection, TGLO.

aspect of colonial governance in a society built atop the ruins of preexisting Indigenous city-states. As the Spanish colonial project pushed north in search of silver and souls in the seventeenth century, however, new city-planning policies became necessary. Unlike the densely populated, urbanized landscape of the Central Mexican Plateau, New Spain’s far north was, from the Spanish perspective, a vast “blank slate.” Since it was also dominated by semi-sedentary Indigenous groups that resisted resettlement in Spanish towns, would-be colonists needed to create new towns from scratch.¹

Spanish expansion into the far north also coincided with a major set of colonial reforms introduced by the French monarchs of the House of Bourbon, rulers of the Spanish Empire from 1700 until the independence era. These “[Bourbon Reforms](#)” prioritized uniformity and a more rationalized approach to frontier colonization.



Composite image made from illustrations found on Antonio Garcia Cubas’s *Reyno de la Nueva Espana a Principios del Siglo XIX*, 1885, Map #93751, General Map Collection, TGLO.

In 1782, Bourbon officials instituted new regulations for creating frontier towns. Known as the [Plan of Pitic](#), these regulations streamlined the process of town foundation, provided for municipal grants of four leagues of land (nearly 18,000 acres) to new towns, and instituted regulations for surveying and distributing land to settlers. The Plan of Pitic provided the blueprint for subsequent town foundations in Spanish Texas, and its provisions strongly influenced Mexican colonization legislation.²

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¹ Gilbert R. Cruz, *Let There Be Towns: Spanish Municipal Origins in the American Southwest, 1610-1810* (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1988).

² Galen D. Greaser, *That They May Possess and Enjoy the Land: The Spanish and Mexican Land Commissioners of Texas (1720-1836)*, self-published, 2022.

San Felipe *continued*

Mexican independence leaders agreed with their Bourbon predecessors about the need to include urban planning provisions in any colonization program. The committee debating the 1823 Imperial Colonization Law, for example, considered including rules that all houses in new towns be oriented in the same cardinal direction, that clocks be set to the same hour, and that plazas be of “regular” shape with space for government offices and parish churches.³

Such proposals did not make it into the Imperial Colonization Law or its successor, the National Colonization Law of 1824. However, Mexican reformer’s preferences for uniformity and compactness in frontier urban planning did not abate. The 1825 State Colonization Law of Coahuila y Texas, for example, prescribed straight, scientifically surveyed streets on a north-south grid; mandated compact, regularly shaped land grants; and set out instructions for creating *ayuntamientos* (municipal councils) when local populations grew to a sufficient size.⁴

Tensions between these Mexican provisions for urban compactness and the Anglo-American preference for living on dispersed homesteads ultimately helped doom San Felipe de Austin.

Founding San Felipe de Austin

The StoryMap’s second section uses original records and historical maps to revisit the founding of San Felipe. Mexican officials imagined that immigrants would settle within existing Tejano communities, or that, conversely, new towns would form organically as families moved to an area. San Felipe, by contrast, was more like a “planned community.” Meant to serve as headquarters of Austin’s Colony, it was created from whole cloth in an area with relatively few non-Indigenous residents. Settlers had been arriving on the lower reaches of the Brazos and Colorado rivers since 1822, but their dispersed settlement patterns did not lend themselves to life in a town at the center of the sprawling colony.

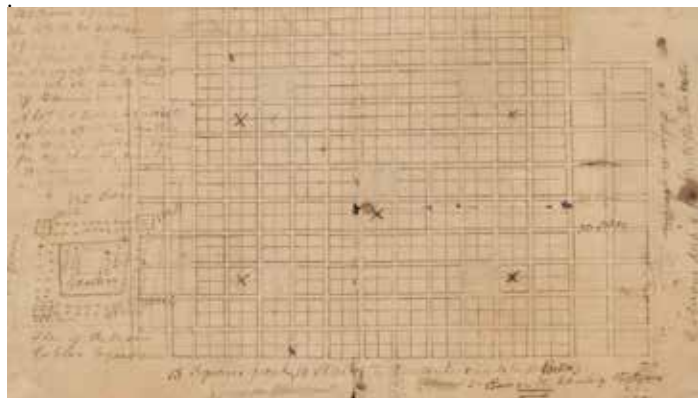


Detail from *Mapa de Texas con partes de los Estados adyacentes*, c. 1832, Map #94560, Non-GLO Digital Images Collection, TGLO. Image courtesy of the Mapoteca ‘Orozco y Berra’ del Servicio de Información Agroalimentaria y Pesquera, Mexico City.

The Mexican government granted Austin permission to establish “a pueblo or villa” at a central location in his colony, and interim governor Luciano García had already chosen a name for the town before any surveying began. Appropriately, it would have a hybrid name, honoring both Garza’s patron saint, Saint Philip, and the Anglo-American empresario: San Felipe de Austin.⁵

In August 1823, Austin set off with land commissioner Baron de Bastrop to scout for an appropriate location for the town. In October Bastrop wrote to García that he and Austin had found a spot on the Brazos that was “elevated, entirely free of inundation, and in a place where medium-sized vessels can arrive almost any time of the year.”⁶ Bastrop noted that the lower reaches of the Brazos could accommodate even larger ships, thus facilitating trade via the Gulf of Mexico. However, the river later proved less suitable for commercial transport than initially thought.

Austin soon hired Seth Ingram to survey and plat the new town according to the empresario’s own precise specifications. Even without direct instructions from the government, Austin adopted the Mexican municipal model for San Felipe, likely aware of recent national debates about the need for rational urban planning on the frontier. Plazas, town lots, and lots for other public institutions



Austin experimented with different layouts for San Felipe de Austin before settling on the Ingram version, including the one seen in this sketch. Austin, “Plan of the town of San Felipe de Austin,” 1823, Stephen F. Austin Map Collection, Archives and Manuscripts Collection, Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin.

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³ Brian A. Stauffer, “‘Where the Cult is in the Hands of the People’: Enlightened Catholicism and the Colonization of the Texas Frontier,” *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* 124: no. 3 (January 2021): 243-269.

⁴ State colonization law of 1825 (Samuel Bangs imprint), 9 July 1828, Box 28, Folder 4, Records of the Spanish Collection, TGLO.

⁵ For a concise discussion of the founding of San Felipe, see Gregg Cantrell, *Stephen F. Austin: Empresario of Texas* (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2001).

⁶ Comm. Baron de Bastrop to Luciano García, acting governor of Texas, 20 October 1823, Box 129, Folder 26, Records of the Spanish Collection, TGLO.

San Felipe *continued*

were to be laid out to exact specifications on a grid of streets surveyed and named well in advance of any construction activity.

Ingram traced Austin's vision on the ground and on paper, creating a detailed vision of a mature Mexican town worthy of the status of colonial capital and future municipal seat. All Austin had to do, it seemed, was fill in the outline with actual buildings and settlers. This task proved much more difficult to achieve. Nevertheless, the plat deserves a closer look, since it offers a glimpse of a unique experiment in urban planning as a link between cultures.

Map Tour: Exploring the Plat of San Felipe de Austin

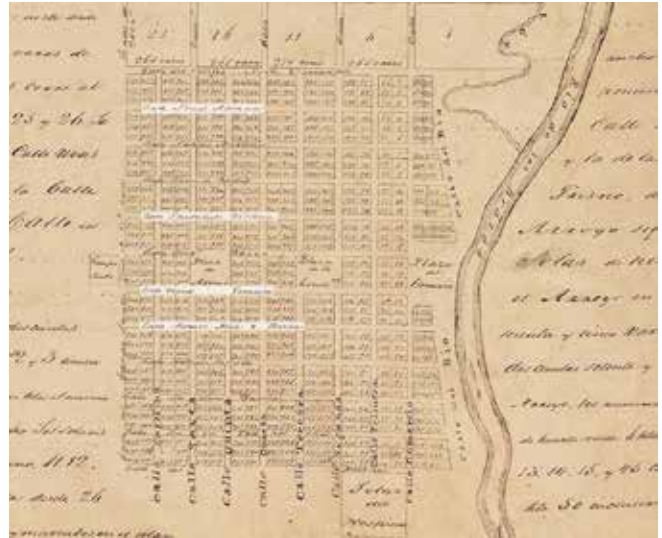
Ingram's plat, which is found only in the GLO's Spanish Collection, serves as both San Felipe's blueprint and title. Though dozens of colonists had settled on the Brazos and Colorado rivers by the time that the surveyor began work, the town itself became the first formal grantee in the colony, receiving title to five leagues of land (more than 22,000 acres) on July 1, 1824.

In its third section, *Best Laid Plat* zooms in on the plat itself to examine the hybrid features in Austin's vision for his colony headquarters. First, users learn how Ingram and subsequent Austin's Colony surveyors adapted the Anglo-American surveying tradition to Mexican standards by experimenting with different lengths for the *vara*, Mexico's basic unit of measurement.

The StoryMap then explores the patriotic odonymy of San Felipe, whose downtown streets Austin named after Mexican independence leaders and statesmen such as Guadalupe Victoria (first president of the Mexican republic), Vicente Guerrero (independence leader and future president), and Lucas Alamán (secretary of state and foreign relations). Ironically, some of these figures later opposed Anglo immigration to Mexican Texas.



The Austin/Ingram plat set the *vara* at “eight percent less than an English yard,” or “two and six-tenths English inches less than an English yard.” Later, Austin’s Colony surveyors standardized the *vara* at thirty-three and one-third inches for easier calculation



Detail: central east-west streets named after prominent Mexican statesmen.

At the heart of the town, Austin and Ingram projected three public plazas (a military plaza, government plaza, and market plaza), urban features that Mexicans considered essential to local civic life and good order. Future development in San Felipe mostly eschewed the military and government plazas and instead concentrated on the market plaza on the Brazos River, a reflection of Anglo orientations towards the Gulf trade.⁷



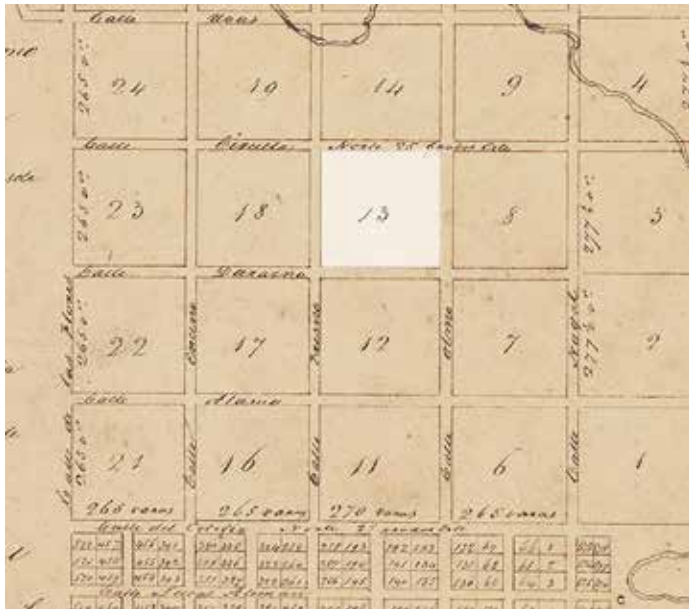
Detail: the triple plazas at the heart of Austin's hybrid vision for San Felipe: [left to right] the plaza de armas or military plaza, the plaza de la constitución or government plaza, and the plaza de comercio or market plaza.

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⁷ Michael Rugeley Moore, *San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site* (Austin: Texas Historical Commission, 2018).

San Felipe *continued*

Surrounding the plazas, Ingram laid out and numbered hundreds of 60 x 40-vara town lots, envisioning a compact town with a rich civic life. Sale of these lots were to provide the bulk of the town's municipal revenues. North of town, Austin also asked Ingram to lay out fifty 12-acre "garden lots" for town residents to grow subsistence crops. Ideally, settlers would keep a house in San Felipe and a small subsistence farm in the northern "suburb," visiting their land grants to oversee commercial farming operations only as necessary. In reality, most colonists dispersed to far-flung homesteads on their grants.

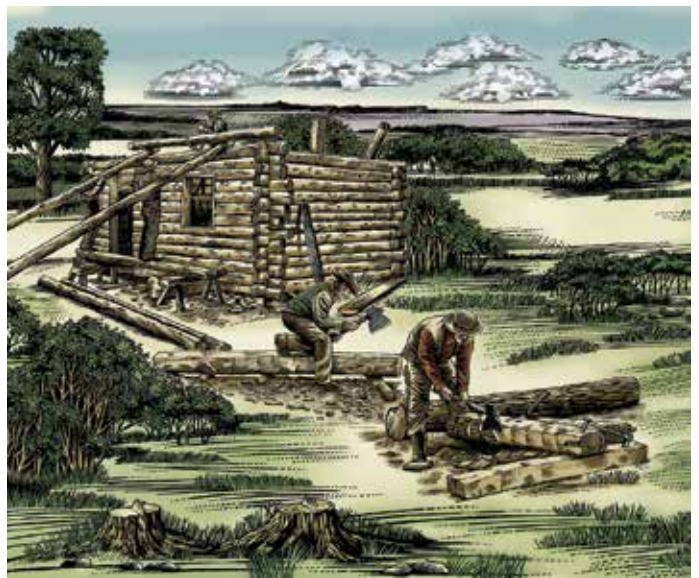


Suburban "garden plots" laid out north of downtown San Felipe

San Felipe's Lived Reality

Though it could boast some modest achievements by the time of the Texas Revolution, San Felipe never lived up to the vision on display in the plat. The penultimate section of the StoryMap analyzes the town's successes, challenges, and shortcomings. Its centerpiece is an interactive feature that uses the plat to visualize San Felipe's uneven development by showing where structures were actually built.

Within a few years of its founding, San Felipe grew to a collection of perhaps two dozen houses and businesses, mostly log cabins constructed in the style favored by the American frontiersmen who dominated the small population of around two hundred.⁸



Building log cabins in San Felipe de Austin (mural). Image courtesy of the San Felipe de Austin State Historical Site, Texas Historical Commission.

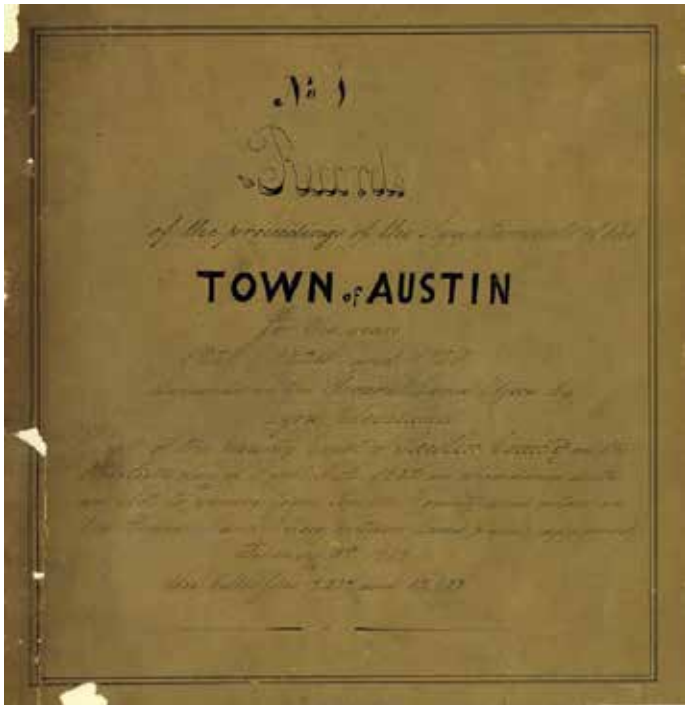
The population of the town proper grew only slightly over the next few years, while thousands of new settlers scattered across the rest of the colony. By 1827, the colony was eligible to form a five-member *ayuntamiento* (municipal council), to be headquartered in San Felipe. After municipal elections held in 1828, Austin formally handed over his interim political powers to the *ayuntamiento*. Combining the powers of a city council and county commissioners court, this body was charged with keeping public order and making municipal improvements, taking the census, overseeing primary educational efforts and religious administration, organizing the militia, and enforcing state law and local regulations.

The minutes of the *ayuntamiento*, which exist only in the GLO archives, offer a glimpse of the council's early work. Councilors hired an interim secretary, brainstormed ideas for raising revenues for the construction of a municipal hall, jail, parish church, and school, sold town lots, and drafted municipal ordinances. The *ayuntamiento* considered the organization of the local civic militia an especially pressing issue, given recent Karankawa and Wichita raids on local homesteads. It then turned its attention to public nuisances like drunkenness, gambling, and the proliferation of feral hogs.

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⁸ Michael Rugeley Moore, "Regulation Double Log Cabins: The Built Environment of San Felipe de Austin," unpublished manuscript in the possession of the author, 2014.

San Felipe *continued*



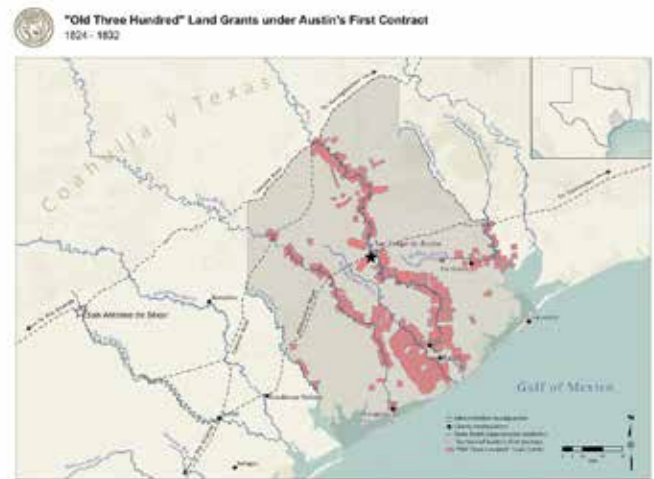
Minutes of the Ayuntamiento of San Felipe de Austin, Vol. 1, Map #94260, Records of the Spanish Collection, TGLO

By 1830, San Felipe could boast a primary school and gristmill, and it hosted Texas' first newspaper, *The Texas Gazette*. A collection of stores and taverns had appeared around the commercial plaza, catering to immigrants who arrived daily to solicit land grants in Austin's Colony. A few steamships and keelboats plied the Brazos, mostly hauling the slavery-dependent cotton crop out to coast and bringing back finished goods.

Such successes notwithstanding, the new town council faced considerable challenges. Poor bookkeeping plagued the council's town lot sales, which proved an insufficient source of revenue. Compounding these problems, the *ayuntamiento* had difficulty recruiting a secretary fluent in Spanish, which was necessary for communicating with Mexican officials.

Much to Austin's chagrin, the town itself also stagnated. The population plateaued at around 300 permanent residents in 1830, with men outnumbering women ten to one. Such an imbalance contributed to a rowdy "boys' town" culture, as single men poured into town to petition for land and visit local taverns and gambling houses before relocating to their new homesteads. Few settler families decided to make the town their permanent home.⁹

Stifled growth meant low revenues and stalled public works. The planned municipal hall never got off the ground, and the



Austin's Colony settlers often opted to live in homesteads on their land grants, which were scattered along a broad swath of the lower Brazos and Colorado rivers. Mark Conway and Brian Stauffer, "Old Three Hundred" Land Grants under Austin's First Contract, 2023, Map #97185, General Map Collection, TGLO.

council instead found itself bouncing between rented cabins. Though Austin did organize a militia, the military plaza also remained undeveloped. The commercial plaza provided one bright spot, though commerce in San Felipe itself lagged nearby Brazoria.

Dispersal was one major cause of such stagnation: Anglo colonists preferred to live in far-flung homesteads rather than in a compact town. As early as 1823, Austin had "been trying to make people move together," as he put it, but his efforts were mostly in vain.¹⁰ Ironically, the *ayuntamiento* itself provided a microcosm of such sprawl. Some of its members lived up to 12 miles from town, necessitating stipends for travel to and from meetings. By 1830, Austin and his secretary, **Samuel May Williams**, had themselves abandoned the town core, moving their homes and land operations to the northern garden lots.

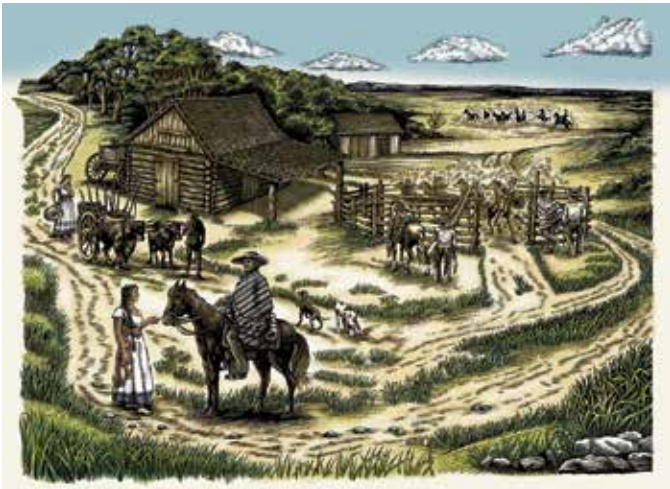
By 1830 San Felipe really constituted three distinct and poorly connected "neighborhoods": the suburban garden lot settlement clustered around Austin and William's homes; the town core surrounding the market plaza, and "Spanish Town" probably located south of town between the river and the undeveloped *Hospicio* (asylum) lot. There, several interconnected Tejano families dedicated to the vaquero trade had built *jacales* and other structures such as livestock pens and stables. Though men from the Mancha, Leal, and other Tejano families did vote in municipal elections, the existence of a separate "Spanish Town" suggests that they did not integrate with the newcomers as Mexican officials hoped.

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⁹ Moore, *San Felipe de Austin*, 38-39; Margaret Swett Henson, "San Felipe de Austin: Capital of the Austin Colony," paper delivered at Stephen F. Austin University, 23 October 1993.

¹⁰ Quote in Moore, "Regulation Double Log Cabins," 86.

San Felipe *continued*



“Spanish Town” (mural). Image courtesy of the San Felipe de Austin State Historical Site, Texas Historical Commission.

The result of these various challenges and pressures was a growing gap between Austin optimistic vision of San Felipe and the reality “on the ground.” One way to appreciate this disjuncture is by comparing the original plat with data showing where San Felipe residents actually built houses and buildings before the town’s 1836 demise. A unique interactive map in *Best Laid Plat* uses data on the built environment of San Felipe painstakingly compiled by historian Michael Moore to show the uneven, scattered development of the town between 1823 and 1836.



This interactive StoryMap feature, based on probate research by Michael Moore, shows the changing built environment of San Felipe over three periods: 1823-24 (blue dots), 1825-1830 (white dots), and 1831-1836 (red dots). Users can click each dot to view details about the structure (year built, type of building, notable occupant).

Destruction and Rebirth

Stagnation and sprawl hampered San Felipe’s growth, yet the larger political conflicts between Texas and Mexico City in the 1830s ultimately sealed its fate. Austin’s colonists had chafed at some aspects of Mexican political culture (the lack of jury trials, required conversion to Catholicism, widespread anti-slavery sentiments) from the beginning. Although Austin had generally defended his adoptive country in the early years of the colony, this became more difficult after 1830, when Mexican leaders began trying to curtail Anglo immigration and enforce new laws on tariffs and slavery.



[left] Guerrero Battalion Flag carried by the Mexican Army, TSLAC 30-4033. Image courtesy of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. [Right] Stephen F. Austin’s flag design as presented to the San Felipe militia. Image courtesy of the San Felipe de Austin Historic Site, Texas Historical Commission

By 1832, San Felipe had become a hub of political ferment, as settlers [organized conventions](#) to draw up grievances with the Mexican government. Tensions ratcheted further after Austin’s arrest in 1833 and the centralist turn of the Mexican national government in 1834. In October 1835, San Felipe resident Gail Borden, brother of first Texas Land Commissioner John P. Borden, inaugurated the *Telegraph and Texas Register*, the mouthpiece of the Texian revolutionary movement. San Felipe soon became the seat of the [Consultation](#), the body tasked with considering Texas’ secession from Mexico.¹¹

The violence of the Texas Revolution soon engulfed the region, reducing San Felipe to ashes. News of the fall of the Alamo reached San Felipe in mid-March 1836, triggering the [Runaway Scrape](#), when colonists fled from the advancing Mexican Army. Amid the general panic, Samuel May Williams hastily packed up Austin’s colony records into trunks and evacuated them under armed escort. Had he not done so, the GLO as we know it might not exist.

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¹¹ Moore, *San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site*, 50-60.

San Felipe *continued*



The evacuation of San Felipe during the Runaway Scrape (mural). Image courtesy of the San Felipe de Austin State Historical Site, Texas Historical Commission.

On March 29, 1836, troops under Captain Moseley Baker, hoping to deny crucial supplies to the approaching Mexican army, put the torch to the town. By the time Santa Anna's army arrived on April 6, San Felipe was a smoldering ruin of burnt cabins, houseless brick chimneys, and piles of broken china.¹²

Attempts to rebuild San Felipe began immediately after the Revolution, but most of its former residents had already resettled in Columbia, Harrisburg, or Houston. A short-lived attempt to promote [San Felipe as the seat of the new government](#) of the Republic of Texas failed for pragmatic reasons—the government needed a place to meet immediately.

Former residents and several new waves of immigrants trickled back into San Felipe in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In 1928, the town of San Felipe donated lands out of its historic 1824 footprint for the creation of a memorial park, which was transferred to the state in 1939. Today, this park is known as Stephen F. Austin State Park. The nearby San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site, operated by the Texas Historical Commission, maintains a separate site that today features monuments, replicas of several original structures, and a new museum. The historic *campo santo* (cemetery) still exists, as do several of the historic roads seen on the Ingram plat.

San Felipe de Austin's story is key to understanding the rise and fall of Mexican Texas as a whole. It is also strongly connected to the story of the Texas General Land Office, a fact reflected by the close partnership between the GLO Archives and the San Felipe de Austin Historic Site. The permanent exhibit at the site's museum features many GLO records in facsimile, and the GLO has loaned several original maps and documents to the museum for its ongoing bicentennial exhibit, on display until September 2024. In turn, San Felipe staff and curators supplied images for use in the *Best Laid Plat* StoryMap and consulted on its text.

The GLO's Archives and Records and Geospatial Technology Services teams collaborated to produce this interactive StoryMap. It utilizes a modern application and GIS software to present dozens of historical maps, documents, and images in an engaging format for those interested in history and cartography, and it serves as an educational tool for the classroom. True to the GLO's mission, it helps save Texas history for future generations.

¹² Moore, *San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site*, 60-62. See also Stephen L. Hardin, *Texan Iliad: A Military History of the Texas Revolution* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1994).



Museum and Visitors Center at the San Felipe de Austin Historic Site. Image courtesy of the San Felipe de Austin State Historical Site, Texas Historical Commission.

For an Academic Paper in the History of Cartography

This prize, offered by the Washington Map Society since 1994, recognizes academic achievement in the history of cartography and honors the late Dr. Walter W. Ristow, former chief of the Geography & Map Division, Library of Congress, and co-founder and first president of the Washington Map Society.

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The competition seeks research papers in the field of the history of cartography, completed in fulfillment of coursework requirements or based on original research. All papers must be in English, documented in a style selected by the author, and not in excess of 7500 words. Inclusion of clear graphics (maps) supporting the paper is encouraged. Papers entered for the Prize may have been previously presented at academic symposia or entered in other competitions. They must not, however, have been published, selected for publication, or in consideration for publication at the time of entry.

● FORMAT

Papers should be converted to a Word or a PDF document and submitted to Bhattasali@Cox.Net by 12:59pm EST on the date of the submission deadline. Please ensure that the PDF includes a title page and cover sheet including the entrant's name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and school, department, and academic status. Please do not include the entrant's name on any other page except the title page.

● JUDGING CRITERIA

Three broad criteria: (1) importance of research (e.g., originality, sources used), (2) quality of research (e.g., accuracy, source reliability), (3) writing quality (e.g., clarity, organization, command of cartographic terms).

● DEADLINE

Emailed no later than 1 June 2024. Email to Deepak Bhattasali at Bhattasali@Cox.Net. More information is available on the website of the Washington Map Society (<https://washmapsociety.org>), or contact Bhattasali@Cox.Net.



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The Texas Map Society invites papers, 20 minutes in length, on this theme broadly conceived, including discovery, exploration, conquest, resistance, settlement, economy, and all aspects of cultural encounters in Texas and the Greater Southwest.

The Texas Map Society welcomes submissions on *Frontiers and Borderlands of Texas and the Great Southwest* from its members, academics, independent researchers, and especially from graduate students and early-career scholars. Preference is for those papers that are aligned with the meeting theme, however, all proposals of merit will be considered. All participants must be members of the Society at the time of the meeting.

Members of the society and meeting attendees are diverse and include map collectors, academics, librarians, archivists, public historians, geographers, and others. Most members are interested in general exploration and discovery, geography, historical cartography, map production, distribution, and collecting, and related fields, not limited only to Texas. For more information on The Texas Map Society and how to join: <https://texasmapsociety.org/>

All proposals should include the following:

- Presentation title
- Presentation abstract (250-500 words)
- Presenter email address and affiliation
- A CV (no more than 2-pages)

Submit proposals to Dr. Mylynka Kilgore Cardona, TMS Vice President and Program Chair, mylynka.cardona@tamuc.edu as e-mail attachments, with the subject line: TMS-SanAntonio2024. Paper proposals are due **May 1, 2024**. Notice of acceptance will occur after May 15, 2024.

Questions? Please contact Dr. Cardona at mylynka.cardona@tamuc.edu

Frank Holcomb Obituary

We are deeply saddened to learn of the recent death of Frank Holcomb. Frank was a great friend of the Texas Map Society, and even hosted an event at his office and home during last year's meeting in Houston. He and his wife Carol were delighted to show TMS members their tremendous map collection. They both also made very generous contributions of some of their historical Texas maps to the Texas General Land Office. <https://www.holcombmaps.com/about>

We express our sincere condolences to Carol and the rest of the Holcomb family on this huge loss. Following is the obituary printed in the Houston Chronicle on 10 March 2024:

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/houstonchronicle/name/frank-holcomb-obituary?id=54570227>

Frank Harvey Holcomb

09/02/1948 – 03/01/2024



Frank Harvey Holcomb was defined by his optimism, love of life, his family, his many friends and colleagues and his Texas Map Collection.

To his chagrin, Frank was born outside of Texas on the 2nd of September 1948. His father, Frank Herman Holcomb and mother, Inez Elizabeth Harvey were living in Centralia, Illinois where his father was employed as a geologist for the Tex Harvey Oil Company. As a young child he and his family moved back to Texas. Frank grew up in Dallas and graduated from Highland Park High School. He attended the University of Texas where he was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha. A University of Houston law degree (Law Review) was followed by an LLM in Taxation from Georgetown University. While in Washington, DC, he worked in the Chief Counsel's Office of the Treasury Department handling income tax issues which prepared him for his career as a Tax and Estate Planning Attorney in Houston. His future wife Carol Crump was working on Capitol Hill for her Congressman Dan Kuykendall of Tennessee. Frank and Carol were married the 19th of February 1977.

Frank's legal career began in Houston in 1976. Frank loved his law practice, respecting and personally caring for his clients. He was at his desk when he died unexpectedly on Friday, the 1st of March 2024.

Frank and Carol were ardent supporters of the historic Moravian village of Old Salem, North Carolina and the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts (MESDA) where Frank served on the MESDA Advisory Board. His wife Carol is a docent at the Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens and Frank felt honored to serve on the Bayou Bend Collection Subcommittee.

Anyone who knew Frank, understands he had a passion for maps, particularly maps of Texas. He was a member of the Sons of the Republic of Texas and his map collection reflects his knowledge of early Texas history as well as his love of art.

Though he and Carol collected furniture and folk art, Frank was at

heart a map collector and believed that his maps should be shared with the people of Texas and beyond. He was a member of the Philip Lee Phillips Map Society of the Geography & Map Division of the Library of Congress.

Frank loved a good joke. He was a master of puns and associated word plays. Humorously Frank claimed that he always did exactly what Carol told him to do. A friend said she had always doubted that, but now she is convinced of the fallacy of that statement, for Carol would never have permitted Frank's departure and his loss will leave a huge void in the lives of all who knew and loved him. He will be especially missed by his son Frank Charles Holcomb and Carol's son John King and wife Stephanie.

At the family's request there will not be a service. In lieu of customary remembrances, memorial contributions may be directed to, Old Salem Museum & Gardens (MESDA); 600 South Main Street; Winston-Salem, NC 2710; Bayou Bend Docent Accessions Endowment; 6003 Memorial Drive; Houston, Texas 77007 Save Texas History, Attn. Archives; P.O. Box 12873; Austin, Texas 78711 (TX General Land office) or the [charity of one's choice](#). Please view Frank's online memorial tribute at [GeoHLewis.com](#), where words of comfort and condolence may be shared electronically with his family.



Frank Holcomb in San Felipe



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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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