

Map Collection Users' Group

www.lib.unimelb.edu.au/collection/maps/

Minutes of meeting on Tuesday 11 November 2004

1. Attendance

Richard Pennell (History, chair), Louise Hitchcock (Classics & Archaeology), John Maidment (Archi Library), Chandra Jayasuriya (SAGES), Brian Finlayson (SAGES), David Jones (Map Collection)

2. Apologies

John Cain, Nigel Finlayson, Peta Humpheys.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes were accepted.

4. Business Arising

- A0 Photocopier: Copier not printing light lines very well even on dark setting. David Jones to continue to investigate.

5. Report from the Map Curator

The arrangement with David Jones as Acting Map Curator while John Cain is on secondment to another role in the Information Division will continue to December, 2004. There is full time backfill by Brendan Whyte for David's position. David will look after Collection Management, and undertake Information Literacy Activities as of second semester.

David Jones reported a range of issues:

- Original Map Cataloguing : The Earth Sciences Teaching previously maintained by Bernie Joyce has been disbanded and a great deal acquired by the Map Collection. Some of this material has been introduced into several current series maintained by the Map Collection to fill gaps, however a great deal of these items require original cataloguing. The Map Collection has a considerable amount of this work done mid year, and a second project to complete this cataloguing with be done before the end of the year.
- DYDO & SR@L guides : The Map Collection has introduced two new subject headings with lists of resources in SR@L. ' GIS Data and Digital Maps ' & ' Map & Mapping Resources Online '. At anytime additional teaching material can be added under these headings on request of Map Collection staff.
- Map Digitalization. 1945 aerials : The 1945 hardcopy aerial photography has now been digitalized inhouse. The final sheets were digitalized at 400dpi on the A3 scanner. An improvement over the A4 scanner previously used at 300dpi for the inner Melbourne sheets. Days just previous to the meeting Brendan Whyte in contact with Ian Gauntlett, Manager – Floodplain Management who provided a complete set as held by the Dept. Sustainability & Resources in digital format of 1945 photograph of Victoria. Work is being done to index these holdings.
- Map Collection casual staff : David Jones reports that two full-time persons in Client Services had been trained during the year to call on at need. These two persons were trained to answer basic inquiries only.
- Feb 2005 Baillieu Library Historic Map Exhibition : David Jones reported on the Map Collection 2005 historic exhibition to be held in the Baillieu Library in conjunction with the Australian Map Circle Conference. This exhibition would contain cartographic material for the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries from both the Map Collection and Special Collections of Asia Minor. The opening night of the exhibition is the Mon 7th Feb at 6:30pm.

- Australian Map Circle Conference : The Australian Map Circle 2005 conference will be at Graduate House and The University of Melbourne. MCUG member are encouraged to attend the conference and inform others who would be interested .

6. Departmental Map Needs (standing item).

Any requests for maps or GIS data can be emailed to John Cain or David Jones at any time. Tony Sagona via Louise H requested detailed mapping of Georgia, Asia. Louise was after the meeting made aware of the online mapping resources at the University of Berkley to meet this request.

7. Other Business

- Richard Penell asked about the possibility of upgrading the Map Collection online image server database to a more modern user interface. David J replied that he was apart of the State Library Victoria digitalisation committee in a project to digitalise several hundred historical Board of Works plan. This project would also put these image on the web. In light of this the Map Collection was not going to start a large project to updating current image server software until observing the results at the SLV, however next year it might be appropriate to consider alternatives.
- Maps 2004 Materials Vote: Richard Pennell asked about this. David J replied the Map Collection has spent the total amount in the account plus an additional 10% in an effort to make sure the total amount is spent by the end of the year.

8. Close of Meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be announced by the Map Curator in the new year scheduled for the beginning of semester.