

The NEATLINE

A NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS MAP SOCIETY

Fall 2016



Profiles in Cartography: Mapmakers and the Greater Southwest

Tenth Biennial Virginia Garrett Lectures on the History of Cartography

and

Texas Map Society Fall 2016 Meeting

November 11-12, 2016

University of Texas at Arlington Central Library Sixth Floor

For meeting details, please see page 3-4.

CAPTION

Tobias Conrad Lotter after Guillaume Delisle, *America Septentrionalis*, engraving (hand colored), 46 x 58 cm.
(Augsburg: Lotter, between 1758 and 1778). UT Arlington Libraries Special Collections

FROM THE PRESIDENT

No longer are we experiencing days in the 90s! Leaves are fluttering to the ground, and football fever is rampant—all signs that Fall is here and the Texas Map Society is preparing for its second meeting of the year, in conjunction with the 10th Annual Virginia Garret Lectures. The dates are November 11-12, at UTA Library's 6th Floor. A special exhibit is also being shown. So do plan to attend this "map-filled" two-day event.

In conjunction with our TMS meeting, we are lending our name and support to the North Texas Book & Paper Show, being held at the Arlington Convention Center November 11-13. What golden opportunities we have being in the Metroplex, being members of the Texas Map Society, and being able to use maps to find our various destinations!!!

Even though I will no longer be "Captain of the Ship", let me share with you our plans for our Spring 2017 TMS Meeting. Be prepared to celebrate the mapping and birth of our Great State of Texas—literally at its birthplace: Washington-on-the-Brazos. Our hosts will be the Star of the Republic Museum and the date is April 21-22, which just happens to be San Jacinto Day Weekend! Please plan to join us for a grand celebration.

The past two years of being president of the Texas Map Society has been an interesting pilgrimage for me. My initial belief was that since I did not have a "real job" I would certainly be able to devote more than enough time to accomplish whatever was required—whatever that means! Well, LIFE has a way of getting in the way. As a pilgrim, the journey has not been a straight path, and I must tell you it has certainly not been made alone. In all honesty, my presidency has truly been a co-presidency, shared with my executive assistant, Marvin, better known as my husband. I now have a much clearer understanding of how truly technologically challenged I am in today's world. Without Marvin and every other member on the board, I would probably still be trying to accomplish things via telephone and "snail-mail"!

I sincerely want to thank each of you for how you have enriched my personal pilgrimage in traversing these past two years as your president.

- Shirley Applewhite, TMS President 2015-2016

FROM THE EDITOR

For at least two more years, until my retirement in 2018, I will be working as a meteorologist with KXAS-TV, NBC 5 in Dallas-Fort Worth. I certainly enjoy my work, and all of my fellow employees. But unfortunately, those duties require me to stay in town for most of each year's spring storm season. That means I am unable to travel across the state to our various spring meetings. I always hope that one of our TMS members will take the time out to write up a brief summary of the spring gatherings for use in *The Neatline*. We came close to having no summary at all this year. But at the last minute, our president Shirley Applewhite stepped up, and in addition to all of her other duties, provided an article on the meeting in Corpus Christi.

I don't mean to sound like a scold. But this isn't my newsletter. *The Neatline* belongs to all of the members of the Texas Map Society. I don't expect everyone to participate in every issue. But occasional articles like Walt Wilson's on school atlases, Shirley Applewhite's summary of the spring meeting, or James Harkins' My Favorite Map feature in this edition are things that most TMS members are capable of providing once every 3 or 4 years. And if you feel your writing skills aren't your strength, then send me a few photos of one of our meetings, or provide me with an interesting link you saw in a newspaper, magazine, or web site that you feel may be of interest to our membership. Just send them to me at:

EditorTMS@aol.com.

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: José Adrián Barragán-Álvarez, Brett Anderson, Shirley Applewhite, Mylynka Cardona, Marty Davis, David Finrock, Sylvester Jalnaiz, James Harkins, Ben Huseman, Prasanthan Nagan, Walt Wilson, and our graphic designer Carol Lehman.

A **Neatline** is the outermost drawn line surrounding a map.

It defines the height and width of the map and usually constrains the cartographic images.

The Tenth Biennial Virginia Garrett Lectures on the History of Cartography

*Profiles in Cartography:
Mapmakers and the Greater Southwest*

PROGRAM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

8:30-9:45 am

Continental Breakfast, Late Registration
UTA Central Library Sixth Floor Atrium

9:45-10:00 am

Welcome, Opening Remarks
Sixth Floor Parlor

10:00-11:00 am **Presentation I**

Spanish Missionary Maps of the Greater Southwest
Gabriel Martinez-Serna
Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios
Superiores en Antropología Social (CIESAS)
Monterrey, Mexico

11:00-11:15 am

Break

11:15 am-12:15 pm **Presentation II**

**Cartes tres Curieuses: French Mapmakers
and the New World**

Jacob Wiese
Associate Director, Williams Research Center
The Historic New Orleans Collection
New Orleans, Louisiana

12:15-2:00 pm

Lunch

2:00-3:00 pm **Presentation III**

**Frontier of Science: Jean Louis Berlandier's Exploration
of the Northern Mexican Frontier, 1826-1851**

Russell M. Lawson
Professor of History, Bacone College, Muskogee, Oklahoma

3:00-3:15 pm

Break

3:15-4:15 pm **Presentation IV**

**Mapping Deseret: Nineteenth Century Mormon
Cartography in the Southwestern Borderlands**

Richard Francaviglia
Professor Emeritus, University of Texas at Arlington

4:15-5:30 pm

Exhibit Viewing/Gallery Tours
UTA Central Library Special Collections
**Enlightenment Mapmakers and
the Southwest Borderlands**
Ben Huseman, exhibit curator

5:30-7:00 pm

Cocktails, Dinner
UTA Central Library Sixth Floor

7:00-8:00 pm **Presentation V**

**The Cartographer as Popularizer: Herman Moll
and the North American Greater Southwest**

Dennis Reinhartz
Professor Emeritus, University of Texas at Arlington

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

8:30-9:45 am

Continental Breakfast, Late Registration
UTA Central Library Sixth Floor Atrium

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ACCOMPANYING EXHIBIT

Enlightenment Cartographers and the Southwestern Borderlands

featuring over seventy original 18th century maps

October 3, 2016 - January 15, 2017

Special Collections • Sixth Floor • UTA Central Library

2016 Fall Program *continued*

9:45-10:00 am

Welcome, Introductory Remarks
Sixth Floor Parlor

10:00-11:00 am **Presentation VI**

***The Rio Colorado of the West:
19th Century Exploration and Cartography***
Imre Demhardt

Professor & Garrett Endowed Chair in the History
of Cartography, University of Texas at Arlington

11:00-11:15 am

Break

11:15 am-12:15 pm **Presentation VII**

***The Great American Atlas Boom, 1850-1890:
Mitchell, Colton, and Johnson and the Mapping
of the Southwest***
Royd Riddell

Riddell Rare Maps and Fine Art, Dallas, Texas

12:15-1:30 pm

Lunch

1:30-2:30 pm • **Presentation VIII**

***The Draftswoman's Pen: Art and History
on Eltea Armstrong's Maps of Texas***
Mylynka Kilgore Cardona

Map Curator, Archives and Records Division
Texas General Land Office, Austin, Texas

2:30-3:15 pm

Texas Map Society business meeting

3:15-4:30 pm

Texas Map Society Map Corner

Attendees are encouraged to bring a map to show and
discuss; however, arrangements must be made ahead of time
by contacting Ben Huseman huseman@uta.edu

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

10:00 am-3:00 pm

North Texas Rare Book, Paper, and Map Show
Arlington Convention Center, 1200 Ballpark Way

REGISTER NOW at:

<https://www.regonline.com/Garrett-2016>

Meeting attendees are invited to the

The North Texas Book and Map Show

November 11-13, 2016 • Arlington Convention Center • 1200 Ballpark Way • www.bookfair.us

Overview of Our TMS 2016 Spring Meeting in Corpus Christi

By Shirley Applewhite

The 2016 Spring Meeting of the Texas Map Society was held at Corpus Christi at the campus of Texas A&M University Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC). If you have never visited a university on an island, it is a great experience, especially in the Spring! Living inland, we tend to forget what beautiful coastal cities Texas has. The sunrises and sunsets truly speak to the soul as nothing else does!

TMS always tries to make our twice a year meetings a learning experience in every sense, and this meeting was no exception. Our entire weekend was planned by Ann Hodges, formerly of UTA, now of TAMU-CC. She had actually contacted TMS before my presidency began, and said there was a surveying company located near Corpus Christi that was co-sponsoring a very large digitalization project with the university. Thousands of survey maps and related documentation that dated back more than 50 years, needed to be digitized not only to save the information but to make it more easily to use in the future. Knowing how important digitalization was to the map world, Ann believed this project would make a great topic to discuss at our TMS meeting on Saturday.

She was So Right!! Brister Surveying Company and the digitization of their maps and surveys ended up being almost our entire program on Saturday! What a treat! Dr. Rick Smith has been the program director since its beginning, and the students he has hired have been with the program the same length of time. It has been a win-win situation. Invaluable records, maps,



Charles Parsons after Daniel Powers Whiting, *Bird's-eye View of the Camp of the Army of Occupation, Commanded by Genl. Taylor, Near Corpus Christi, Texas (from the North) Oct. 1845*, toned lithograph, 31.4 x 49.2 cm., by G. & W. Endicott, from Whiting, *Army Portfolio* (New York, 1847). UT Arlington Libraries Special Collections

and information are being digitized. Students are receiving “on the job” training while working toward degrees. All of this is helping them to enter the job market and hopefully give them a bit of an edge.

I said earlier that almost all of our formal program on Saturday discussed the digitalization program but that was not the total program. One of our TMS members, Walt Wilson, was the last speaker of the day and he provided a fascinating presentation regarding the accidental bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade in

1999. In his presentation, Walt illustrated how maps played an important role in the bombing. His talk was not only interesting but extremely entertaining.

Those of us that arrived in Corpus Christi early on Friday afternoon, had the opportunity to visit the Rockport Museum and to hear Jerry Brundrett, a local veteran surveyor, give a lecture on surveying maps of Aransas County. We also enjoyed seeing the antique surveying tools and instruments that were on exhibit at the museum.

Our TMS reception on Friday evening was held at the Art Museum of South Texas and this proved to be a delightful introduction to Corpus Christi. We had very scenic up close and personal gulf views, educational exhibits, and delicious food!

Once again, our “Hats Off” to Ann Hodges and her months of diligent work to put together a memorable TMS weekend!



TMS visits Special Collections at the Texas A&M - Corpus Christi campus.



View of naval ships in Corpus Christi

Photos courtesy of Ben Huseman.

MY FAVORITE MAP

Stephen F. Austin's Connected Map of Austin's Colony, 1833-1837

By James Harkins and the Staff of the General Land Office

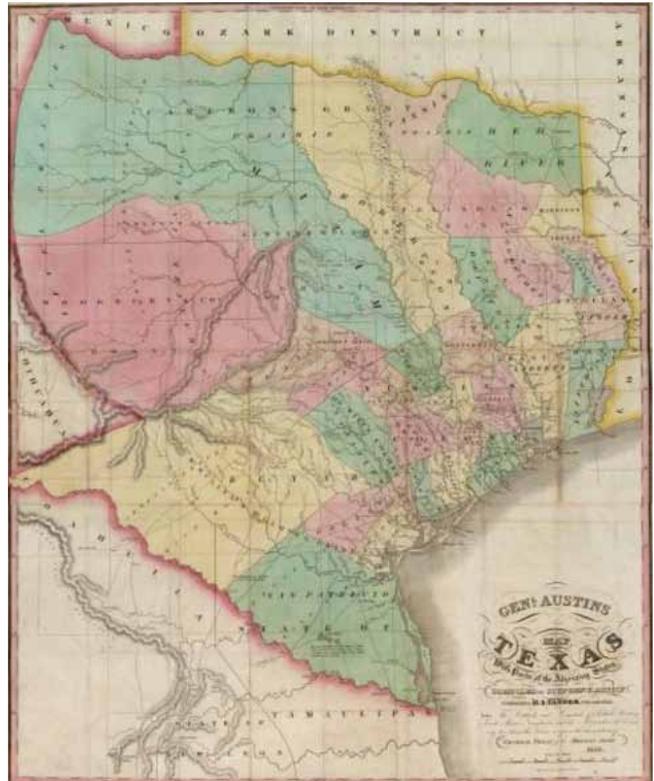
Often called the “Father of Modern Texas” for his contributions to the establishment of the empresario system and the Anglo colonization of Texas, Stephen F. Austin also deserves credit as one of the first Texas mapmakers. Keeping close to his surveying roots, Austin first charted the rivers and bays of Texas in order to locate the land best suited for his colony. Once he had accomplished that, Austin set out to produce maps of Texas that became the primary cartographic references for the territory for decades, promoting further immigration to and the colonization of Texas.



Simon A.G. Bourne, *Mapa topográfico de la provincia de Texas*, by Estavan Austin, ca 1825, Witte Museum Collection, San Antonio, Texas.

In 1822, Stephen F. Austin drew a map to accompany his petition for the confirmation of his empresario contract with the Mexican authorities. The original is now housed at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. Simon A.G. Bourne updated and improved Austin's map. Austin's map shows the major rivers in Texas, as well as the towns and roads that crossed the state between the Rio Grande and the Sabine.

In 1833, Stephen F. Austin tasked Gail Borden, Jr., to create a map of the lands granted through Austin's empresario contract. The enormous undertaking included all land grants between the San Jacinto and Lavaca Rivers, an area covering nineteen present-day counties in Texas. Borden, with the help of his brothers John P. and Thomas H., completed the



Stephen F. Austin, *Genl Austins Map of Texas with parts of the adjoining States*, Philadelphia: H.S. Tanner, 1840, Map #93860, Holcomb Digital Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

Connected Map of Austin's Colony in 1837, after Austin had passed away.

Stephen F. Austin's map, first published in Philadelphia by H.S. Tanner in 1830, served as the primary reference point for maps of Texas for nearly a decade. The first edition referenced the location of the Austin and DeWitt colonies in Texas. Tanner reissued the map five times, each edition adding information on the new colonies established. The 1840 edition seen here overlays the new counties over the old empresario colonies.

Purportedly, Austin's maps have never been on display together, in any format, until the map exhibit, *Mapping Texas: From Frontier to the Lone Star State*, at the Witte Museum.

Of the three maps, the most important, and most valuable, is the *Connected Map of Austin's Colony, 1833-1837*.

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My Favorite Map *continued*

The Connected Map of Austin's Colony, 1833-1837



The Connected Map of Austin's Colony, 1833-1837.
Photo courtesy Texas General Land Office.

The enormous undertaking of making this map, included individually mapping all land grants between the San Jacinto and Lavaca Rivers, an area covering approximately 15,400 square miles in nineteen present-day Texas counties. The original colony plats (or drawings of the divisions of the pieces of land) were drawn on a scale of 2,000 varas to the inch. Borden reduced the scale to 4,000 varas per inch when he realized the larger scale would render a final map measuring over fifteen feet square.



Close-up of map showing some of Stephen F. Austin's personal land grants on the Bayous Flores and Austin in Austin's Colony. Each plat is land belonging to a grantee and is labeled with their name and the dimensions in varas of the area.

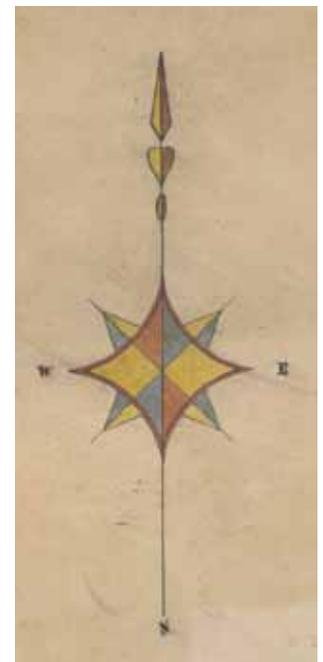
The Texas Revolution, and the events leading up to it, disrupted the work being done on the map. On March 24, 1836, fearing the destruction of records by Santa Anna and his troops, Robert Peebles, the acting land commissioner of Austin's Colony, packed up all of the colony's papers and other important materials and sent them via wagon to Fort Jessup, Louisiana, where they remained until October of 1836.

Unfortunately, Austin did not live to see the map completed. After his unexpected death on December 27, 1836, Austin's

brother-in-law, and the executor of his estate, James F. Perry took up the task of overseeing the project. Perry asked Borden to hire as many assistants as he needed to complete Austin's map. Borden enlisted the help of his brothers Thomas and John, with John P. Borden, who was later named the first Land Commissioner of the Republic of Texas, ultimately taking the lead role on the massive project. Assisting John was a nephew of Austin's, Moses Austin Bryan, and Robert D. Johnson, a Virginia lawyer recently immigrated to the Republic. It is unknown who actually drew the map as all three Borden brothers are credited on the document. Based on handwriting comparisons from other maps, it is generally accepted that Thomas H. Borden was the primary cartographer.

On November 3, 1837, Perry submitted to the Senate of the Republic of Texas the report it had requested of the land grants issued in Austin's Colonies. The connected map provided striking visual evidence of these grants. The majority of the grants are league or quarter-league tracts of land. Within each surveyed area is the name of the original grantee and the dimensions of the grant in varas.

Composed of nine separate paper sheets glued together, and measuring almost seven feet square, the connected map is one of the oldest cadastral (land ownership) maps in the GLO's collection. It is also one of the largest; a custom-made map cabinet was built specifically to house it in the GLO Map Vault. It has a large color title block in the lower right hand corner bearing the title "Connected Map of Austin's Colony, Commenced by S. F. Austin, 1833, Completed by J. F. Perry, 1837, Projected by John P. Thomas H. and Gail Borden." An ornate compass rose occupies an open space on the top right of the map, with a heart and spear tip indicating North and a multi-colored eight-pointed star to indicate the cardinal and primary intercardinal directions.



The compass rose—found on most maps to indicate direction.

Because the connected map was a working legal document, GLO draftsman F. G. Blau made a tracing of it in 1892. The original was stored, rolled atop a map cabinet for nearly a century, until the early 1980s. The map was conserved in 2002 thanks to a generous donation from the law firm of Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP. This map is an incredibly important piece of Texas history and an impressive work of cartographic craftsmanship.

Continued on page 8

My Favorite Map *continued*



The 1892 tracing of Stephen F. Austin's Connected Map.

In 2011, the Texas Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, made a donation to the GLO in order to digitally scan the 1837 original Connected Map of Austin's Colony, as well as the 1892 tracing. This was exciting news for the GLO because, for the first time ever, these very important and very large maps were made available to the public for reproduction and research online.

Because of the importance of the Connected Map, it had to be included in the Mapping Texas exhibit at the Witte. But its fragility, caused by nearly a century of being rolled up after years of use, posed some interesting challenges for archivists and exhibitors. How do you transport what could be the most important, one-of-a-kind maps in Texas history?

Transporting the Connected Map to the Witte Museum

When determining which maps to showcase, Archives staff couldn't ignore one of the largest, and by far the most important, map from the GLO's map collection—the Connected Map of Austin's Colony. This map is a stunning work of utilitarian art that measures an astounding 7.5 x 6.75 feet.

So how did this important, priceless, fragile map make the 80-mile journey to San Antonio?

The first consideration was whether to transport the map rolled or flat. Each method has its advantages and disadvantages. A rolled map is considerably smaller, and enclosures made to

transport rolled maps can be as strong as anything designed for flat transportation. However, since returning from intense and expensive conservation treatment in 2002, the map has been stored flat in a custom-built "Jumbo" map cabinet, fixed between two fine—but stiff—layers of cotton. Rolling a document, even when done properly, requires more handling than staff was willing to perform on a map as large and fragile as the Connected Map. It was decided that the map would be transported flat.

But would the space in the transport vehicle be wide enough? It was estimated that the flat enclosure would need to be at least 85 inches wide. The width of the transport truck was 88 inches, just wide enough to fit the map and its enclosure, which was made up of an archival "sandwich."

Archival Sandwich Ingredients:

- 4 sheets of foam board (48 x 96 in. each)
- Gaffers tape (heavy cotton cloth pressure-sensitive tape)
- Acid-free tissue paper
- Archival quality polyester film
- 4 large custom-made photo corners
- 10 large binder clips

Foam board sheets were chosen because of their sturdiness, and there was already a large quantity on-hand at the GLO. At one-quarter inch thick, the boards were acceptable for a professional, licensed and insured art moving company. The Connected Map is wider than the widest available foam board, so two sheets had to be joined with gaffers tape, making sure that the adhesive parts of the tape would never come in contact with the map itself. Two sheets measuring 96 in. x 85 in. were created to enclose the map.

Foam board is not acid-free, so each piece had to be layered with acid-free tissue paper. Four staff members carefully moved the Connected Map onto the tissue layer. The top was then covered with archival quality polyester film followed by another layer of tissue paper. Four custom made photo corners were inserted onto each corner of the map and taped to the bottom piece of foam board to hold the map in place. Once again, great care was taken to ensure that none of the adhesive could come in contact with the map itself.

Finally, the top foam board sheet was placed on top of the map and its protective layers. Ten large binder clips were placed evenly along the perimeter of the enclosure creating enough pressure to fix the map in place and prevent shifting in transit.

Continued on page 9

My Favorite Map *continued*



The Connected Map at the Witte Museum. Credit: Kim Man Hui / San Antonio Express-News

When the map arrived at the Witte Museum, it was placed into a beautiful custom made stained wood and acrylic glass stand that had been created specifically for this exhibit.

Since its completion in 1837, the Connected Map has endured years of use as an official document and then nearly a century of rolled storage. After considerable expense to rehabilitate and conserve it, the Connected Map of Austin's Colony is finally being

seen by the public as a work of art through the lens of history at the Witte Museum, as part of Mapping Texas: From Frontier to the Lone Star State. It's certainly possible, if not likely, that the Connected Map will never be publicly exhibited outside of the General Land Office after it returns from the exhibit.

And that's why it's our favorite map.

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

American School Atlases 1835-1850 and Thomas T. Smiley

By Walter E. Wilson

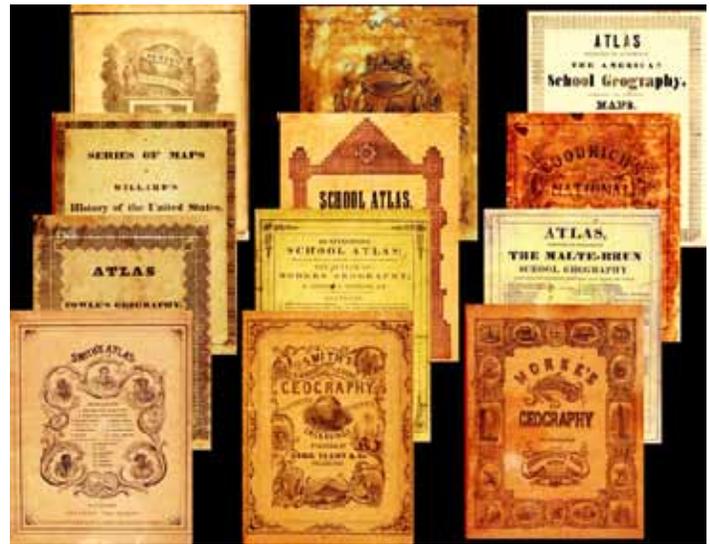
The years between 1835 and 1850 saw dynamic changes in the cultural, economic, military, and political development of the United States. The era spans the years from the independence of the Texas Republic, the War with Mexico (1846-1848), and the Compromise of 1850. That historic compromise admitted California to the Union and formed the Western Territories of New Mexico (including modern Arizona) and Utah. The agreement also gave Texas its modern shape as the state relinquished its claims to large sections of modern New Mexico, Oklahoma, Colorado, Kansas, and Wyoming.



Compromise of 1850 Map

The national interest in these shifts in the American political landscape extended far beyond the powerful politicians and generals. Americans young and old were naturally curious about exotic places and people. Interest was particularly keen in those areas where settlers and soldiers confronted “savage” Indians and the outnumbered Texians fought against the Mexicans. In the far northwest, tensions with the British over the Oregon Territory also threatened to spill over into outright war. The 1848 discovery of gold in California turned the stream of Americans flowing into these vast western tracks into a flood.

Educators and publishers quickly capitalized on this demand. They created text books that were more than catalogues of spatial relationships and dry demographics. School atlases helped families visualize the unfolding story of the American West through maps. Authors also used geography books and associated atlases to teach character, democratic principles, and convey optimism. American school atlases of this period reflected idealized political and social concepts that included race, religion, and the comparative status of civilization. Not surprisingly, all of these depictions cast the United States (and the Anglo-American “race”) in a positive and optimistic light.



School Atlas Covers 1835 1850

For a country with a population of only 17 million, there was an amazing number of competing school atlases in the United States. Between 1835 and 1850, at least fourteen different authors published school atlases and geography books. Authors included Barnum Field, William B. Fowle, Samuel G. Goodrich, Nathaniel G. Huntington, Conrad Malte-Brun, Samuel A. Mitchell, Sidney Morse, Jesse Olney, Thomas T. Smiley, Roswell C. Smith, R.M. Smith, Emma Willard, Jacob Willetts, and William C. Woodbridge. The most popular and longest running authors were Mitchell, Morse, Olney, and Roswell C. Smith.

Each author and publisher worked hard to differentiate their atlases. Competitive tactics included frequent updates, professional endorsements, and concentration on the most interesting developments in the life of the nation. Despite these efforts, most school atlases had similar formats and content. Atlases were usually issued separately from the accompanying geography text book and left the back side of the map (verso) blank. The maps in the Atlases focused on the United States, but typically had at least one of South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and “Oceanica” (Pacific Ocean). These continental maps often had insets of other interesting areas. Common insets included Liberia, the new African nation established by well-meaning Americans to relocate freed slaves, and the Holy Land.

Although it is easy to distinguish the maps by the various authors/geographers and their publishers, it is maddeningly difficult for modern scholars and collectors to differentiate among different editions from the same author. A series of atlases often have similar or identical covers and dates, even when there are numerous changes and different publishing dates to the maps. Authors often re-used old plates as they issued unidentified new editions. Some of the plates within a single edition might update

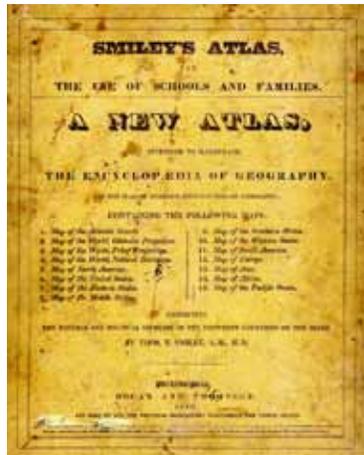
Continued on page 11

School Atlases *continued*

new discoveries or boundaries while other maps remained exactly the same. The individual maps may or may not have any changes in the dates on the updated maps. Another common technique was to retain the previous, unaltered plates and merely use coloring to reflect rapidly changing boundaries.

The series of Thomas Tucker Smiley (1795 – 1879) atlases dated 1839 is one of those that defy exact identification. Smiley published numerous geographies and atlases between 1824 and 1843 in Boston, Hartford, and his home town of Philadelphia. With their bright colors and pro-American bias, Smiley’s maps are typical in many respects of contemporary American school atlas maps. He first published *Smiley’s Atlas for the Use of Schools and Families, A New Atlas* in 1838 at Boston. He re-issued the *New Atlas* in 1839 with Hogan and Thompson of Philadelphia. Like the 1838 Boston edition, the 1839 Philadelphia atlas has a soft cover with 12 plates and 15 maps.

There are no other specified editions of Smiley’s “*New Atlas*” published beyond 1839. However, the lack of updated covers, publishing, or copyright information did not keep the Smiley and his publisher from updating their maps. There are at least three different versions of Smiley’s 1839 Philadelphia edition



Cover: Smiley

New Atlas. The two maps that label Texas in this atlas provide examples of these variations: the two page map of the United States and the single page map of North America.

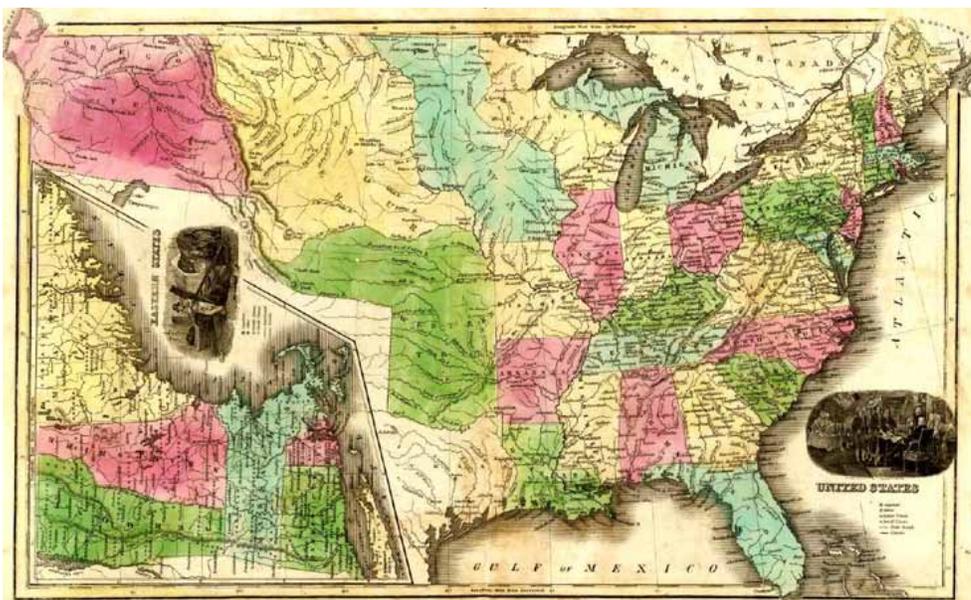
Smiley’s map of the United States from the *New Atlas* has an unfortunate inset of the Northeastern States. The inset saved the publisher a sheet of paper, but it covers most of the American West and is turned at a 90° angle. The U.S. map does depict most of the new Republic of Texas, but has no coloring and no defined border with Mexico. The first state of this map identifies eight Texas cities (St. Patrick, Bexar [San Antonio], Goliad, San Felipe, Brazoria, Nacogdoches, Liberty, and Bevil). Bevil (or Beeville) was a curious choice for inclusion. Bevil had been renamed “Jasper” in 1835. Smiley probably meant to depict nearby Bevilport, located on the Angelina River (eastern fork of the Neches) and incorporated in 1837.

There are numerous updates to Smiley’s United States map in his first revision of the 1839 *New Atlas*. Within Texas, he adds Austin as the capital of the Texas Republic. The second version of atlas is available at Donald Rumsey’s superb website. <http://www.davidrumsey.com/search?utf8=%E2%9C%93&term=Smiley>

This map of the U.S. also added the capitals for Wisconsin (Madison) and Iowa (Burlington) that had become U.S. territories in 1838. The pictured excerpt from Smiley’s map of the United States reveals a third variant of the Smiley’s 1839 *New Atlas*. This version includes Austin as the capital and adds the city of Houston within Texas. There are numerous other minor updates to other maps within the atlas as well.

Smiley’s 1839 *New Atlas* maps of North America all show Texas as an independent republic stretching from the Rio del Norte (Rio Grande) up to the Red River. The Texas border runs east of the Rio Puerco (Pecos River) and west of the head waters

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Smiley Map of the United States 1839



Detail, Smiley Map of the United States 1839

School Atlases *continued*

of the Colorado and Brazos (“Brasos”) Rivers. There is at least one minor variation of the pictured map of “N. America” from the 1839 first edition. Unlike the map of the United States, Smiley’s engravings of North America appear to be exactly the same within all of his 1839 *New Atlases*. However, the colorist of the earlier two editions drew the border between Texas and Mexico at the Nueces River, rather than down to the Rio del Norte (Rio Grande).

One unusual feature of all of these Thomas T. Smiley atlases was the inclusion of decorative engravings called cartouches. Smiley’s 1839 map of the United States has two cartouches; one of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The other, titled “Commerce, Manufacture, Agriculture,” is for the inset map of the Eastern States. It shows a sailor smoking his pipe while leaning against a large anchor and naval stores, with a sailing ship, a manufacturing plant, a team of horses, and a covered wagon in the background.

The pictured close up from Smiley’s map of North America (third edition 1839 *New Atlas*) shows detail from the lower left portion. The single cartouche depicts an “Indian” sitting on the ground with a bow and arrows in his left hand. At his right are a tobacco plant and animal pelts. His forlorn gaze is cast toward the horizon, past two European men rowing a boat along the

river below. His expression suggests that he expects to see more men headed his way. American school atlas maps rarely have this kind of ornamentation, especially one with such a sympathetic depiction of a Native American.

School atlases provide context and depth of understanding to any study of United States history or culture. Among the multitude of antebellum school atlases, those of Thomas T. Smiley’s are relatively uncommon. His maps add an artistic flare that is missing in those of his competitors. For more information see: Ruth Miller Elson. *Guardians of Tradition, American Schoolbooks of the Nineteenth Century*, (Lincoln: Univ. of Nebraska Press. 1964).

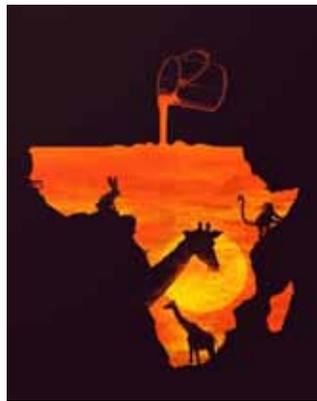


Smiley: North America 1839 *New Atlas*
3rd Ed detail

Creative Visual Map Design

By David Finrock

Sylvester Jalnaiz, the Community Outreach Specialist for the Canva School of Design sent me an article recently, in which students and artists experimented with design elements of cartography. The article, titled “Visual Design and Composition, Lessons from 30 Beautiful Maps” was written by Prasanthan Nagan. As the title implies, there are 30 beautiful map designs. I am including two of them here, to whet your appetite.



“This map of Britain is a masterclass in iconography, packed to the brim with every widely known reference about the island from the Beatles to the London Red Buses, and even the English Bulldog.” It was designed and drawn by Aleksanda and Daniel Mizielnsky.

“Lastly we have a beautiful design of the African continent by Tang Yau Hoong. It cleverly uses animal silhouettes to offset and form the contours of the map. The map is also infused with the colors of the iconic African sunset, adding depth of meaning to the positive space and balancing it with the illustrative features of the negative space.”



By all means, go to the following link to see the other 28 maps. From the main article, be sure to click on each map for larger images, information about the map creators, and more maps and other artwork available from each artist.

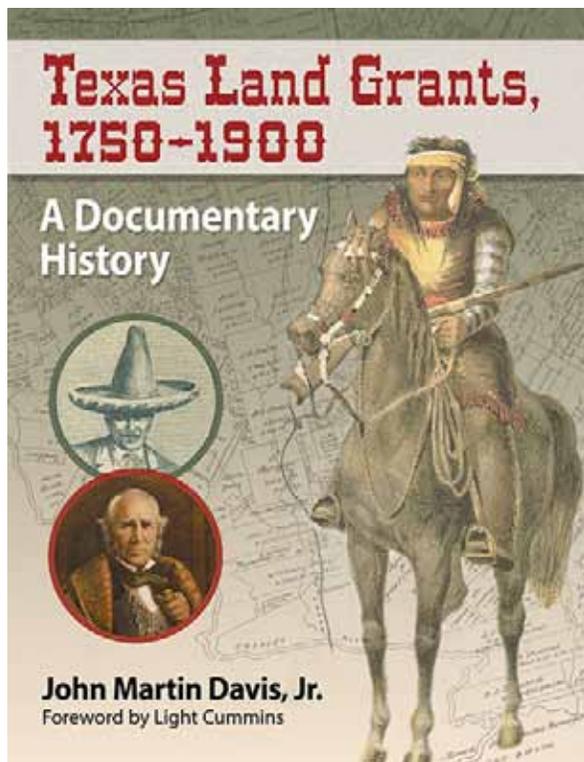
<https://designschool.canva.com/blog/cartography/>

Foreword to Texas Land Grants, 1750-1900, A Documentary History

By John Martin Davis, Jr.
and Light Townsend Cummins, Bryan Professor of History, Austin College, Former State Historian of Texas

The history of Texas rests part and parcel on the history of land ownership and the grants upon which it is based. From the time of the first European arrivals in the region to the present day, land has attracted a continuing succession of residents from many diverse places to settle today's Lone Star state. For whatever other reasons they came, ownership of land was a prime motivation for the steady stream of people who have come to live their lives in Texas. Each successive legal system in the history of Texas has left its mark on the physical array of land ownership in the state because, progressively, what came before provided a foundation for subsequent rules of law. And, to a remarkable extent, the history of Texas land since statehood is exceptional in our nation because of the criteria by which the Republic of Texas joined the union. The terms of the 1845 annexation to the United States permitted the State of Texas to retain ownership of its public domain instead of ceding it to the national government. In spite of the historical importance of land tenure, Texas historians have been slow to provide a comprehensive exposition of the land grants upon which the state's history rests. This has been the case due to the multifaceted, subtle, and complicated legal intricacies of Spanish, Mexican, Republic, and State of Texas legal jurisdictions across time. These present profound historical complexities for historians to master. It has therefore been a difficult and daunting task for historians to sort through them. To date, few, if any, historians of land grants in Texas have had the essential combination of patience, research ability, and legal training to ferret-out and integrate this complicated historical body of law into a synthetic study easily accessible by the general reader. John Martin Davis Jr. does exactly that in this volume.

This study of Texas land grants breaks new ground in expanding the historical understanding of land ownership as an integral component of the larger history of Texas. Earlier studies of the subject have mostly considered only part of the complexity embodied in the evolution of land grants, focusing respectively on Spanish, Mexican, Republic, or state laws. Those studies dealing with the arrival and dominance of the Common Law, as well, mostly consider the activities of the General Land Office. Although an important governmental authority necessary to



understanding land law, this state agency is not the only influence and determinant significant to the subject. Davis embraces a much larger and integrated approach by offering in this volume a detailed narrative that clearly emphasizes the evolution of land grants across the centuries from the beginnings of Spanish settlement to more recent times. Additionally, the narrative that follows in these pages also relates the development of Texas land grants to the governmental, political, economic, and social milieu of the times in which they occurred. One of the essential lessons to be learned in reading this book is that land grants, and their history, are inexorably linked to the social and political values of the eras in which they were made. Land ownership, and the way in which a succession of governmental

sovereignties across the centuries implemented it, cannot be considered in isolation from the temper of its times and the larger society surrounding it. As such, land grants mirror the hopes for success of its citizens as defined by the various authorities that created the legal underpinnings for land ownership in Texas. The numerous illustrations in this volume further enhance the narrative discussion by driving home this point while, as graphics, they also permit the reader to cross reference the interrelationships of the various land grants made across time in Texas. In short, this volume presents a concise and very accessible understanding of land grants in Texas history as part of a holistic approach to appreciating the story of Texas within a larger historical context.

Editor's Note

Marty Davis is, of course, a founding member and former president of the Texas Map Society. We are delighted to see his newest contribution to Texas history in print and available for purchase. https://www.amazon.com/Texas-Land-Grants-1750-1900-Documentary/dp/1476665494/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1475353535&sr=1-1&keywords=texas+land+grants+1750-1900+a+documentary+history

- David Finrock, Editor of *The Neatline*

Mapping Texas: From Frontier to the Lone Star State

Exhibit of maps from the Texas General Land Office and the Frank and Carol Holcomb Collection displayed at The Witte Museum, San Antonio, April 29-Sept. 19, 2016

By José Adrián Barragán-Álvarez, PhD, Curator of Latin Americana, The Bancroft Library
and Mylynka Kilgore Cardona, PhD, Map Curator Texas General Land Office

The shape of Texas is one we all recognize. Whether we see a blank outline on a t-shirt or an advertisement, a postcard with drawings of all-things-Texas – bluebonnets, boots, boomtowns – or satirical posters which make a statement about Texas, the shape is quintessentially, well, Texas. As historian and geographer Richard Francaviglia points out, “No other single icon so readily identifies the state [as its shape]. . . . If Texans were a tribe located in an exotic part of the world, anthropologists would have seriously studied their peculiar use of the map by now.”¹ The state, however, did not always have its iconic shape. *Mapping Texas: From Frontier to the Lone Star State* is an attempt at its cartographic evolution.

One hundred and eighty years ago, Texas’s boundaries stretched from Wyoming to the Rio Grande; ten years before that, it was a sparsely settled, newly formed Mexican state of Coahuila y Texas. If we trace this shape further back to the first mappings of the Gulf of Mexico, Texas becomes part of an unrecognizable land mass. Because of its location at the western edge of the Gulf, most Texans could probably locate their state on a map, but they might not be able to trace its modern contours onto early cartographic representations.

During the period of European exploration, the earliest depictions of Texas often focused on the many rivers and inlets that shaped the coast and cartographers merely projected what they imagined the interior to look like and represented it as a vast region eager to be claimed and colonized despite the existence of indigenous communities. Mapmakers borrowed from native informants, European explorers’ writings and the growing number of printed sources available to chart coastal areas and waterways and ease the navigation and exploration of the territory.

For the Spanish Crown, their northernmost lands were *terra incognita* until France showed interest in 1685 with the landing of Sieur de La Salle in what is now Matagorda Bay. As historian Dennis Reinhartz explains, the lands that would become Texas “geographically, politically, economically, and militarily were a frontier, zonal in nature and not forming a hard and fast linear boundary, and endured as such in part due to Spanish imperial neglect.”² Because of their neglect, French and British rivals attempted to make claims, cartographically speaking, onto Spanish-held territories in North America. This incursion by another sovereign European nation for New World lands prompted Spain to collect valuable information on the topography of their claimed domain and use it to establish presidios and missions in the region.

Spanish authorities began a more earnest attempt at mapping the land in the latter half of the eighteenth century that led to the creation of maps of the newly established Provincia de los Texas, with its western limits set at the Medina River and beyond the Sabine River on the east. José Antonio Ramírez y Alzate’s work became the basis for nineteenth-century cartographers, including that of Alexander von Humboldt whose map showed the Provincia de los Texas as part of the larger Intendancy of San Luis Potosí in central Mexico.

See pages 15-19 for the maps.

¹Richard V. Francaviglia, *The Shape of Texas: Maps as Metaphors*, 1st edition (Texas A&M University Press, 1995), p.3-4.

²Dennis Reinhartz, “Spanish Military Mapping of Northern Borderlands after 1750,” in Dennis Reinhartz and Gerald D. Saxon, eds., *Mapping and Empire: Soldier-Engineers on the Southwestern Frontier* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2014), p. 58.

Selection of Maps from Frontiers of Discovery: “The Great Space of Land Unknown”



Girolamo Ruscelli, *Nveva Hispania Tabvla Nova*, Venice, 1561, [Map 93796](#), General Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

[Image 93796] Girolamo Ruscelli’s *New Map of New Spain* is an excellent example of how mapmakers borrowed from each other and from the early narratives published in Europe. The floating island of Mexico City is far off to the east of New Spain, very near the Gulf of Mexico. A vast mountain range from Texas to Central Mexico divides the known world from the mythical seven cities of gold in the west.



Nicolas Sanson, *Amerique Septentrionale*, Paris, ca.1659, [Map 93684](#), General Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

[Image 93684] Nicolas Sanson’s landmark map of North America was the primary source of cartographic information for the Great Lakes region, an important French possession. Sanson’s work also mirrored others in their mapping of California as an island. The Bahía de Espíritu Santo (possibly Corpus Christi Bay) is shown as the confluence of many rivers—perhaps as an early attempt to map the Mississippi Delta—and a mountain range traverses Texas from east to west.



José Antonio Alzate y Ramírez, *Nuevo Mapa Geographico de la America Septentrional, Perteneciente al Virreynato de Mexico*, 1768, [Map 93835](#), Holcomb Digital Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

[Image 93835] Dedicated to the “wise members” of the Royal Academy of Science in Paris, José Antonio Alzate y Ramírez’s [New Geographic Map of North America] depicts Spanish North America based on the information available to him in the archives of Mexico City. The map is divided into the six religious districts (*arzobispados*) in New Spain at the time. Alzate is also one of the first to identify the area around Texas as the “Provincia de los Texas.”



Alexander von Humboldt, *Carte Générale du Royaume de la Nouvelle Espagne depuis le Parallele de 16° jusqu’au Parallele de 38° (Latitude Nord) dressée sur des Observations Astronomiques et sur l’ensemble des Matériaux qui existoient à Mexico, au commencement de l’année 1804*, Paris, 1809, [Maps 93781](#) and [93782](#), Texana Foundation Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

[Image 93783] Made to accompany his Political Essay on the Kingdom of New Spain, Alexander von Humboldt’s [General Map of the Kingdom of New Spain] was composed from archives in Mexico City and Washington, DC. His map details the coastal areas of Texas and marked the interior as unknown country (*pays inconnus*). Humboldt also extends Texas’s borders beyond the Sabine River, though he recognized that these limits had not been approved by the United States’ Congress.

With the waning influence of British and French cartographic interest (and claims) in North America, the newly independent United States emerged as the main force of influence in the region. The mapping of the United States’ western expansion is an important part of *Mapping Texas: From Frontier to the Lone Star State*. The maps in this section demonstrate the burgeoning American mindset of Manifest Destiny, the popular belief that the United States was destined – by God perhaps – to extend the full breadth of the North American continent.

After its independence from Britain, the United States looked to expand its influence into the areas under Spanish and French rule. Hoping to suppress the new threats of incursions from the United States into the areas that would become Texas, New Mexico and California, Spain sought to fix its contentious border with that country. The 1819 Transcontinental Treaty (also known as the Adams-Onís Treaty), which established the eastern border of Texas and placed a northern limit on Spanish claims, remained in force until the end of the Mexican-American War in 1848.

Selection of Maps from Western Expansion: Fulfilling an American Destiny



Jean Palairt, *Bowles's New Pocket-Map of North America, Divided Into Its Provinces, Colonies, &c.*, London: Carrington Bowles, ca. 1776, [Map #93732](#), General Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, Texas.

[Image 93732] As tensions between Britain and France escalated, mapmakers set out to work on portraying overlapping claims. Beginning in the 1760s, Louis Delarochette built on Jean Palairt and other mapmakers' work to depict the American colonists' claims that their lands extended clear to the Pacific Ocean. In this version, the limits of the southern colonies reach as far west as the Mississippi River and Texas is labelled as part of New Mexico.



John Melish, *Map of the United States with the contiguous British & Spanish Possessions compiled from the latest & best authorities*, Philadelphia: John Melish, 1818, [Map #93843](#), Holcomb Digital Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, Texas.

[Image 93843] No mapmaker illustrated the idea of the spread of the United States across the continent more than John Melish (1771 -1822) whose 1816 *Map of the United States* showed the U.S. territory extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. Cartographers, like Melish, transposed the notions of western expansion onto their work. This work, issued in 24 separate editions between

1816 and 1823, played an integral part in the delineation of the boundaries between Spanish and American territories in the 1819 Transcontinental Treaty.

After independence from Spain in 1821, Mexico sought to reclaim its northern frontier through the establishment of new centers of population, heightening interest in the mapping of the region. Under the newly-established state of Coahuila y Texas, *empresarios* introduced citizens from the United States, Mexico, and Europe into their colonies. The influx of these new families forever changed the cultural landscape of Texas. They adopted existing local customs, including language, religion, foods and ranching, and once their grants had been surveyed and mapped, these colonists set up permanent markers indicating their land ownership.

The coexistence sought by the two nations is seen in the work of White, Gallaher and White's *Mapa de los Estados Unidos de Méjico*, where the state of Coahuila y Texas is very much part of the Republic of Mexico and has well defined boundaries between it and the United States. The growing discontent of Anglo immigrants in Texas toward the central Mexican government, however, soon led to a redefinition and a new cartographic interpretation of Texas. As shown in David Burr's *Texas* (1833), the territory is a separate entity – despite the fact that in the eyes of the Mexican government, Texas was still very much part of the state of Coahuila y Texas.

Selection of Maps from Coahuila y Texas: A Meeting Place

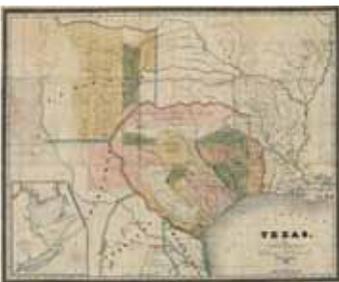


Mapa de los Estados Unidos de Méjico, Segun lo organizado y definido por las varias actas del Congreso de dicha Republica: y construido por las mejores autoridades, New York: White, Gallaher, and White, 1828, [Map #93846](#),

<http://www.glo.texas.gov/history/archives/map-store/index.cfm#item/93846>,

[Holcomb Digital Map Collection](#), Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

[Image 93846] Based primarily on H.S. Tanner's 1825 *Map of the United States of Mexico*, this Spanish-language work shows the full extent of the state of Coahuila y Texas, from its capital at Saltillo in the southernmost corner to the Louisiana and Arkansas borders. The national symbol of Mexico, an eagle perched on a cactus devouring a snake, appears on the top right corner; each cactus pad contains the name of one of the states or territories. The map was originally housed in a hardcover case.



David H. Burr, *Texas*, New York: J. H. Colton and Co., 1833, [Map #93836](#),

<http://www.glo.texas.gov/history/archives/map-store/index.cfm#item/93836>,

[Holcomb Digital Map Collection](#), Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

[Map 93836] David H. Burr's 1833 map depicts new additions to the empresario colonies in Texas, including contract dates and the number of families to be introduced to each location. He delineates Texas as its own entity, despite it being part of the Mexican state of Coahuila y Texas. The map shows grants in the Texas Panhandle, a "Grant to the Shawnee Indians" on the Red River, and includes as an inset a navigational chart of Galveston Bay.

Selection of Maps from Coahuila y Texas: A Meeting Place



J. H. Young, *A New Map of Texas with the Contiguous American & Mexican States*, Philadelphia: S. Augustus Mitchell, 1835, Map #93853, <http://www.glo.texas.gov/history/archives/map-store/index.cfm#item/93853>, Holcomb Digital Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

[Image 93853] J. H. Young's *A New Map of Texas*, modeled after Stephen F. Austin's 1830 map of the area, shows Texas in relation to its neighboring American and Mexican states. Like many mapmakers of the period, Young incorporated the various empresario grants, including a description of the land grant process, the lands claimed by indigenous groups, and many of the features noted in Austin's map, like

"Immense Level Prairies," "Droves of Wild Cattle & Horses," and "Large Groups of Buffalo."

As Texas was mapped from the outside, residents like Stephen F. Austin mapped it from the inside. Often called the "Father of Modern Texas" for his contributions to the establishment of the empresario system and the Anglo colonization of Texas, Stephen F. Austin also deserves credit as one of the first Texas mapmakers.

In order to locate the land where he wanted to establish his colony, Austin had to provide some rudimentary maps. Keeping close to his surveying roots, and in order to locate the best suited land, Austin first charted the rivers and bays of Texas. Once he had accomplished that, Austin set out to produce maps of Texas that became the primary cartographic references for the territory for decades, promoting further immigration to and the colonization of Texas.

Eventually, as his colony became more established, Austin set out to complete his *Connected Map of Austin's Colony*, which outlined each of the land grants issued in the colony. The completed *Connected Map* set the standard through which the district and county surveyors of Texas drew their maps going forward.

Selection of Maps from Stephen F. Austin: Cartographer of Texas



Stephen F. Austin and James Franklin Perry, *Connected Map of Austin's Colony*, 1837, Map #1943, <http://www.glo.texas.gov/history/archives/map-store/index.cfm#item/1943>, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX

[Image 1943] In 1833 Stephen F. Austin tasked Gail Borden, Jr., to create a map of the lands granted through Austin's empresario contract. The enormous undertaking included all land grants between the San Jacinto and Lavaca Rivers, an area covering nineteen present-day counties in Texas. Borden, with the help of his brothers John P. and Thomas H., completed the *Connected Map of Austin's Colony* in 1837.



Stephen F. Austin, *Genl Austins Map of Texas with parts of the adjoining States*, Philadelphia: H.S. Tanner, 1840, Map #93860, <http://www.glo.texas.gov/history/archives/map-store/index.cfm#item/93860>, Holcomb Digital Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

[Image 93860] Stephen F. Austin's map, first published in Philadelphia by H.S. Tanner in 1830, served as the primary reference point for maps of Texas for nearly a decade. The first edition referenced the location of the Austin and DeWitt colonies in Texas. Tanner reissued the map five times, each edition adding information on the new colonies established. The 1840 edition seen here overlays the new counties over the old empresario colonies.

Continued on page 18

Discontent with Mexico's central government led to the independence of Texas, the institution of a new system of government and the establishment of new boundaries over disputed territories. Despite the years of mapping from both inside and out, the official boundaries of Texas remained unresolved. On April 25, 1838, the United States and the Republic of Texas signed the Convention of Limits, also known as the Boundary Agreement, to finalize the boundaries between the two Republics. As stipulated, surveyors from Texas and the United States formed the Joint Boundary Commission to map the Sabine River and establish the border between the Republic of Texas and the United States. This survey effectively set the eastern border of Texas.³

Internally, the boundaries of the Republic shifted from empresario "colonies" and the political jurisdictions of Béxar, Brazos and Nacogdoches to new land districts and counties from which land continued to be granted to individuals in the Republic of Texas.

Selection of Maps from Limits of the Republic: From Wyoming to the Gulf Coast



David H. Burr, *The State of Texas*, New York: S. Stiles & Co, 1845, Map# 93870, <http://www.glo.texas.gov/history/archives/map-store/index.cfm#item/93870>, [Holcomb Digital Map Collection](#), Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

[Image 93870] Based on his 1833 *Texas*, David H. Burr's 1845 updated map shows many of the changes in the short time since the earlier publication. No longer is Texas divided into the limits of the empresario contracts, it is now subdivided into an amalgam of the grants and the newly formed counties. In this edition Burr highlighted the lands of the Galveston Bay Company in East Texas and identified the location of the German Colony at New Braunfels.



Richard S. Hunt and Jesse F. Randel, *Map of Texas, compiled from surveys on record in the General Land Office of the Republic*, New York: J.H. Colton, 1839, Map # 93858, <http://www.glo.texas.gov/history/archives/map-store/index.cfm#item/93858>, [Holcomb Digital Map Collection](#), Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

[Image 93858] Hunt and Randel published their *Map of Texas* with an accompanying *Guide to the Republic of Texas* that provided the reader an introduction to all things Texas. The map was compiled from "the best and most recent authorities," and from the records of the Texas General Land Office. The first Texas Land Commissioner, John P. Borden, signed it and affixed his seal. An inset traces the full extent of the Rio Grande to its source. This map replaced Austin's as the most accurate of the Republic.

Upon its entrance into the Union, Texas's shape morphed yet again. As part of the Compromise of 1850 and in an effort to pay off debts accrued during its fight for Independence, Texas ceded part of its territory to the United States and took on the shape that we recognize today.⁴ These two shapes appear in the insets of Jacob de Cordova's *Map of Texas*. The 1849 version included a Texas that stretched from Wyoming to the Gulf of Mexico, including half of the state of New Mexico.

Texas's statehood led to a proliferation of maps that depicted the new boundaries and how the state fit within the greater United States. In *Colton's Map of the United States of America*, G.W. and C.B. Colton present a post-Civil War United States, showing Texas as fully integrated into the nation.

³Jim Tiller and John P. Evans, Jr., *The Elusive Corner: A Sourcebook*, (Unpublished, 2015), pp 55-56.

⁴Thomas Lloyd Miller and Ralph W. Yarborough, *Public Lands of Texas, 1519-1970*, 1st edition (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1972), pp. 61-62.

Selection of Maps from The Lone Star State: Looking Inward



Jacob De Cordova, *Map of the State of Texas Compiled from the records of the Texas General Land Office of the State*, Houston, 1851, Map #442, <http://www.glo.texas.gov/history/archives/map-store/index.cfm#item/442>
General Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

[Image 442] After Stephen F. Austin, Jacob de Cordova is perhaps the most recognized name in Texas cartography. Apart from illustrating the continual breakdown of the Bexar and San Patricio land districts in Texas, the insets on each map, however, demonstrate the effect of the Compromise of 1850 on the contours of The Lone Star State. The 1851 edition is one of the first to present the state's well-known outline.



John Rapkin, *Mexico, California and Texas*, London: J. & F. Tallis, [1851], Map #93779
<http://www.glo.texas.gov/history/archives/map-store/index.cfm#item/93779>,
<http://www.glo.texas.gov/history/archives/map-store/index.cfm#item/93799>,
General Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

[Image 93779 & 93799] John Rapkin's beautifully decorative maps from 1851 show two different Texases. His *Mexico, California and Texas* map includes Texas's claims extending north to Colorado and Wyoming; meanwhile, California is shown stretching from the Pacific Ocean to the Rio Grande.

The *United States* map, with its vignettes of a buffalo hunt in the prairies and William Penn's "Treaty with the Indians," depicts a Texas without its panhandle.



G.W. Colton & J. B. Colton, *Colton's Map of the United States of America*, New York: Colton & Co., 1886, Map #93642,
<http://www.glo.texas.gov/history/archives/map-store/index.cfm#item/93642>,
General Map Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

[Image 93642] -Originally published as a traveler's companion, G. W. and C. B. Colton's ornate map of the United States includes trade ships on the Pacific Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico, longitudinal measures from Washington, D.C. and Greenwich, England, and distances between major trading posts. Colton also identified the major cities and military forts in Texas, as well as its geographic features, roads and rail lines.

Maps have the power to convey not only the geography of Texas, but the "politics and passions of Texas." As Francaviglia notes, "The map is a symbol of Texas in the public mind...of events, traditions, history, and location."⁵ The exhibit *Mapping Texas: From Frontier to the Lone Star State* takes the museum visitor on a tour through both the history and the myth that is Texas.

Editor's Note

Many thanks to Mylynka Cardona of the General Land Office for this exhaustive review of the Mapping Texas exhibit that took place at the Witte Museum in San Antonio. She has hyperlinked the GLO Map Store page to each of the maps featured in the write-up (in the map citation under each map). All the reader has to do is click it and then they will have access to a zoomable, high-resolution image of the map. Also note that if you missed the exhibit at the Witte Museum, the entire exhibit of *Mapping Texas: From Frontier to the Lone Star State* is going on the road and will be opening at the Houston Museum of Natural Science in January 2017; details will be forthcoming.

- David Finrock, Editor of *The Neatline*.

⁵Luke Gournay, "Preface," *Texas Boundaries: Evolution of the State's Counties*, 1st edition (College Station, Tex: Texas A&M University Press, 1995), p. ix; Francaviglia, *The Shape of Texas: Maps as Metaphors*, p.7.

The Map of Louisiana is changing its shape

By David Finrock

Brett Anderson, writing for the New Orleans *Times-Picayune*, has produced a fascinating account of how the map of Louisiana is changing, due primarily, but not entirely, to climate change. He discusses how difficult it is to map a region consisting of solid land, water and wetlands, where there is no place for a human to stand. That difficulty only grows in a time of rising sea levels. The article is richly illustrated with historical maps of Louisiana, and is well worth a read. Here is the link to the story:

<https://medium.com/matter/louisiana-loses-its-boot-b55b3bd52d1e#.eaol3jtoj>



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