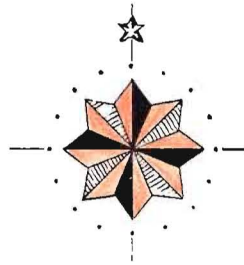


MAPS *and* CIVILIZATION

*Revisited*

Norman J. W. Thrower



2009

California Map Society *Occasional Paper No. 9*

*with Año Nuevo Island Press*

SAN FRANCISCO

*In memory of Alfred W. Newman*

*Secretary, Sir Francis Drake Commission State of California, 1975-1980*

*Founder of the California Map Society, 1980*

*Al's dictum was, "I became a lawyer to help others."*

*With special thanks*

*This publication was made possible in part  
by a donation from Glen and Ellen McLaughlin.*

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Composition: Keith Björkman, Zebra Graphics, San Francisco

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Published in the United States by the California Map Society and Año Nuevo Island Press.

ISBN-13: 978-0-9707691-0-7

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data  
Maps and Civilization/Revisited/Norman J.W. Thrower  
San Francisco, Ca; Año Nuevo Island Press, 2009

I. Cartography — History — Bibliography.

I. Thrower, Norman Joseph William II. Maps and Civilization/Revisited

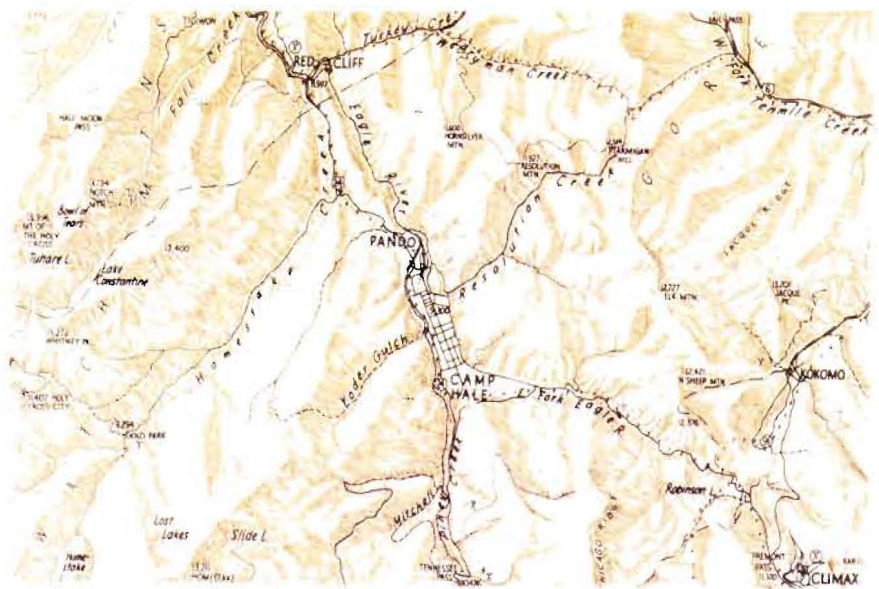
III. Series: California Map Society, Occasional Paper, No. 9

IV. Año Nuevo Island Press

*Additional copies may be obtained by contacting:*

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*Dedicated to my wife of 50 years,  
Elizabeth (Betty) McPherson Martin (died 1997),  
who made my career in the United States in cartography,  
and otherwise, both possible and pleasurable.*



From "Extended Uses of the Method of Orthogonal Mapping of Traces of Parallel Inclined Planes with a Surface, Especially Terrain," drawn by Norman J. W. Throver. TOP: Central portion of the general relief map of Camp Hale, Colorado. BELOW: An enlarged section of the map with other surface-type information added; both maps are planimetrically correct. From *The International Yearbook of Cartography*, volume III, 1963, Bertelsmann Verlag, Gütersloh, Germany (unpaginated).

## FOREWORD

AS NORMAN THROWER notes in his opening sentence, as a professor and scholar he earned his living teaching and writing about maps and especially their history, but he "once made them." In fact, his background in making maps from his early days in the Survey of India and in the Directorate of Overseas Surveys, and as a graduate student creating maps for others, has strongly influenced his scholarly work. This has been generally in the history of cartography, and especially in his well-known book *Maps and Civilization*.

*Maps and Civilization* is unusual in that it traces cartography from the beginnings of mapmaking to the computer age, and looks not only at the intertwining of cartography and civilization, but also at the art, science, and technology of the field. It is Norman's wide knowledge of all aspects of mapping that allows him to accomplish this.

Unlike many historians of cartography, Norman is familiar with the problems cartographers face when making maps. Not only has he been a practicing cartographer, but he has also written on, and taught, the "modern" aspects of the field, such as remote sensing, animated cartography, and terrain representation. His background in art and art history gives him a keen sense of design and knowledge of aesthetics. That and his Ph.D. minor in the history of science uniquely qualify him for writing on the history of cartography, which he feels is at the intersection of the history of science and the history of art.

The present work is a blending of autobiography and the author's appraisal and summary of some of his best-known studies. A highlight of this piece is a selected bibliography of Norman's published works, those that are referenced in *Maps and Civilization*. It is only part of his entire *oeuvre* of over 200 items, but gives a taste of his wide-ranging interests and demonstrates why he is considered one of the foremost historians of cartography.

JUDITH A. TYNER



Figure 7. Chart of Western Europe from *The Mariner's Mirrour* (London: 1588), a translation of *Spiegel der Zeevaert* by Lucas Janszoon Waghenauer (1584), edited by Sir Anthony Ashlcy.

