CALIFORNIA 49

Forty-nine maps of California from the sixteenth century to the present

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To

ALFRED W. NEWMAN

Secretary, SIR FRANCIS DRAKE COMMISSION,
State of California, 1975-1980;

Organizer, INTERNATIONAL MAP COLLECTORS'
SOCIETY conference, San Francisco, 1995;

President, CALIFORNIA MAP SOCIETY, 1993-1996.
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HISTORY OF THE CALIFORNIA MAP SOCIETY

The California Map Society was organized in the Bay Area in May 1978. Diane Rose North and Phil Hoehn were instrumental in pulling the first meetings together. A volunteer steering committee subsequently drafted a set of by-laws and in March 1979 the first officers were elected. Dr. Norman J. W. Thrower was the Society's first president.

Since its inception the Society has held forty-four general meetings, each with multiple presentations, having to do with maps and mapping. Twice yearly meetings are held at locations in northern and southern California, often where important map collections can be viewed as part of the program. The Society formally became a non-profit corporation in 1987.

In addition to its own meetings, joint conferences have been held with the Western Association of Map Libraries (1980), the California Remote Sensing Council (1983), the Society of University Cartographers (1985), the Associates of the Stanford Universities Libraries (1991), and the International Map Collectors' Society (1995).


The objectives and purposes are educational, namely, the preservation and dissemination of historical and contemporary cartography, primarily that of California, both for the members and the general public. This is accomplished by: Holding twice yearly conferences; compiling information about cartographers, historians, map libraries and dealers active within the state; educating the public through occasional publications and media presentations; supporting advancement in map production, utilization and preservation; encouraging research and teaching in the field of cartography; and promoting the exchange of cartographic products and information with other map societies.

Any person with an interest in maps qualifies for membership in the California Map Society. General Meetings are open to all with nominal registration fees. A quarterly newsletter keeps members informed of Society activities throughout the year. For membership information, contact: Bill Warren, 1109 Linda Glen Dr., Pasadena, California 91105. Email: wjwarren@aol.com.

Bill Warren
PREFACE

California 49 is a compendium of forty-nine important maps of California spanning more than 500 years of the area's history. Mapping has played a critical role in the region, from publicizing discoveries to emphasizing the impact of population and continued growth. These maps trace that progress. Mapping techniques have evolved as well from woodblock prints to satellite imagery. Given this backdrop, it seems only fitting that the California Map Society should choose this project to enhance the sesquicentennial of the state of California being celebrated in the years 1997-2000.

Glen McLaughlin, author of The Mapping of California as an Island (CMS Occasional Paper No. 5), suggested publishing a collection of maps that were representative of the most important maps of the state. A committee was formed to pursue the idea. In addition to Glen McLaughlin, the committee consisted of Warren Heckrotte, Editor; and past CMS presidents Al Newman, Chairman, Norman J. W. Thrower, and Gerald Greenberg. How many maps should be included? If any number says "California" to the world, it's "49," the reason for the Gold Rush sesquicentennial. And so this book was born.

A request went out to the members and others for suggestions. Ten or more maps were suggested by the following members: Gerald Greenberg, Warren Heckrotte, Glen McLaughlin, Al Newman, Bob Ross, Leonard Rothman, Norman J. W. Thrower, and Bill Warren. Several other members had one or more suggestions. Over 100 maps were reviewed in order to select the most representative and important. This process took much research and the selection process was subjective, but the final results include examples of many types of maps. The modern maps presented a challenge because of their size and coloration. We hope you will agree that the solution adopted was both innovative and representative.

Funding for the project was provided by the Map Society's treasury, the Book Club of California, and members of the Roxburghe Club, the latter two by way of substantial advance orders for the book.

Map images have been obtained from a number of sources. We particularly want to thank The Bancroft Library, The Huntington Library, the Special Collections of the UCLA Research Library, and the U.S. Geological Survey Library for their help. In addition, the private collections of Warren Heckrotte, W. Michael Mathes, Glen McLaughlin, Al Newman, and David Rumsey have been tapped. The assistance of Matthew Roth, Automobile Club of Southern California Archives Manager, in obtaining the automobile maps is greatly appreciated. Captain (1st Rank) Valentin G. Mishanov, Director of the Russian State Archives of the Navy; Lyn Kalani, Administrator of the Fort Ross Interpretive Association; John C. Middleton; and E. B. Giesecke are thanked for their help in obtaining the Russian map. Translations were provided by Walter Futterman, W. Michael Mathes, and Vlad Shkurkin.
Each map is accompanied by text explaining its importance. The many contributing authors are listed in the back of the book. A special thanks to each of them and to Warren Heckrotte, Editor, who painstakingly reviewed their efforts along with Julie Sweetkind, his able Assistant Editor.

We are indebted to Gary F. Kurutz, Director of Special Collections at the California State Library, for agreeing to write the introduction to this work. His help and encouragement have been most appreciated.

We're fortunate to have also had the guidance of Marianne Hinckle of Año Nuevo Island Press in the design and printing of this volume.

Carrying this project from conception to culmination, the committee of five were the ones who made this book possible. They put their hearts and souls into making this volume one the California Map Society can be proud to have produced. This book is the product of their dreams and we cannot thank them enough for their efforts.

Some months ago we decided to dedicate this book to one of our founding members for his great contribution to the Society. Sadly, our good friend Al Newman is no longer with us. We rededicate this volume to his memory.

BILL WARREN
FOREWORD

One of the good results of the discovery of the gold mines, will be that the vast regions west of the Rocky Mountains, north of Mexico, and south of the Columbia River, will very soon be thoroughly explored. Every river and stream, mountain and hill, valley and cañon, prairie and plain, will be explored, and accurately laid down upon the maps. More will be done this year than has been done for three centuries, to obtain accurate geographical knowledge of the country.

Rev. Samuel C. Damon, The Friend, 15 November 1849

Nineteen Ninety-Nine marks the sesquicentennial of that great stampede to California by gold-seeking adventurers known as Forty-Niners. James Wilson Marshall's discovery of gold on the American River on 24 January 1848, precipitated a worldwide epidemic of gold fever and everyone talked of "fortunes for the millions." News spread slowly, but by the time 1849 dawned, the intense excitement had spread across the continents. As one wisecracking journalist put it: "A grain of gold taken from the mines became a pennyweight in Panama, an ounce in New York and Boston, and a pound nugget in London." This new El Dorado, however, lay in one of the most remote spots on the globe, and those who could figure out how to get there first would become rich. Rev. Samuel C. Damon, a missionary from Hawaii when visiting the diggings in 1849, remarked that the interior of Africa was better known to the civilized world and that there were "no good maps of California." In response, publishers spewed out all manner of guidebooks and travel accounts to this land of golden dreams. As Carl Irving Wheat, the great cartobibliographer, points out, the Gold Rush in terms of printer's ink has seldom been matched. Words were one thing, but to see "Kaliforny" on a map gave a reality to the whole frenzy, and Argonauts snatched up maps as fast as if they were gold nuggets.

The great Gold Rush of 1849 certainly demonstrates the importance of maps to our state's rambunctious past, and for this reason, the California Map Society generously decided to publish a cartobibliography of the most important and fascinating maps documenting the development of the Golden State. What a joyous way to commemorate California's defining event. But, what a daunting task this represented! Since 1540, thousands of maps have been drawn and published depicting California, and to select a symbolic 49 presented as great an intellectual challenge as it was for the gold rushers to cross the Humboldt Sink. As will be seen by a careful reading of California 49, the California Map Society chose wisely. Here is the state's history from a mythological land imagined by European geographers to its delineation from the cosmos via satellite. Every major phase of Queen Calafia's domain is captured cartographically. This publication will serve as a powerful and frequently consulted companion to the many reference works that grace the shelves of our private and institutional collections.

Making a selection of significant maps and attaching a number to it, of course, follows in the tradition of that gentle form of passion known as bibliomania. The
purchase by the State Surveyor General, the State Legislature rejected it. Desiring to
salvage his work, Goddard responded by going commercial, and Britton and Rey of
San Francisco published a reduced-scale version in 1857. State Geologist Josiah D.
Whitney’s use of triangulation not only brought accuracy but also filled in the blanks
and featured such geologic landmarks as high mountains and the Yosemite Valley.
Transportation has always been a key to this elongated state. California’s struggle to
link itself with the rest of the country is documented with Theodore Judah’s 1854
map showing the route of the first operating railway in California that led, of course,
to the piercing of the High Sierra by the steel rails of the Central Pacific Railroad.
California’s love affair with the automobile and individualized transportation is sym-
bolized by a strip map from Los Angeles to Pasadena published in 1908 by the
Automobile Club of Southern California. Fortunately too, California 49 explores the
modern era with a series of maps featuring the state’s current problems and promise:
vegetation, water, population, and ethnic distribution, land use and earthquakes.

All students of California history will enjoy California 49. The commentaries
supplied by a variety of scholars and collector-scholars provide much more than dry,
truncated annotations. While concise, these commentaries bring to life the challenges
of the explorers and surveyors who charted the California landscape. The opinions of
earlier cartohistorians are weighed and accepted or rebutted. The commentaries give
context to the map as individually important or as representative of a class of like
maps. A full cartobibliographic description of each map rounds out the entries.

An erudite committee composed of Alfred W. Newman, Warren Heckrotte, Dr.
Gerald Greenberg, Glen McLaughlin, and Dr. Norman J. W. Thrower had the joyous
task of setting the parameters and making the selection. Following the tradition of
Wagner, Wheat, and Morgan, they express a consuming interest for their subject by
forming serious personal collections or by developing institutional holdings, by thor-
oughly investigating the history of each of their maps, and by taking great pleasure in
sharing their considerable knowledge, and by infecting others with their “carto-
mania.” In many respects, it is amazing that they started with a short list of only 103
maps. They quickly whittled these down to sixty-three and then forty-nine. The
alacrity with which this winnowing process took place could only have been achieved
by a committee in possession of a wide-ranging knowledge, rigorous discipline, and
a generously cooperative spirit. Rejection of a particular title or favorite must have
generated much pain, and the temptation to expand must have been overwhelming.

The California Map Society deserves our enthusiastic applause for contributing
to California’s sesquicentennial commemoration a gift of lasting value. Perhaps the
Rev. Samuel C. Damon would have been pleased by the map-making progress made
in the last 150 years.

GARY F. KURUTZ
California State Library &
The Book Club of California
THE MAPS & THEIR DESCRIPTIONS