

MSIA

Mapping Sciences Institute, Australia

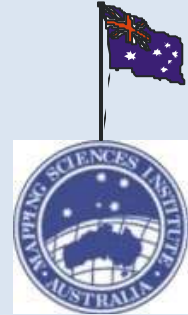
eCARTO



www.mappingsciences.org.au

ICA member: ABN 53 004 301 811: Acn 004 301 811

C a r t o g r a p h y m a t t e r s



August 2011

If you have any brief items of interest to fellow MSIA members please email them to davidfraser60@optusnet.com.au for eCARTO. If you have MSIA specific items please email them to les.isdale@inet.net.au for the new MSN-Connected newsletter. If you have more substantial articles please send them to greg.heron@nt.gov.au for the "Mapping Sciences National" magazine.

Quotes

"Australians have always recognized that distance or isolation was one of the moulds which shaped their history... The idea of distance illuminates the reasons why Australia became a more egalitarian society than North America, and why it was a relatively peaceful society."
Geoffrey Blainey. The Tyranny of Distance

"Let any man lay a map of Australia before him, and regard the blank upon its surface, and then let me ask him if it would not be an honourable achievement to be the first to place a foot at its centre." **Charles Sturt**

"Landscape is the work of the mind. Its scenery is built as much from the strata of the memory as from the layers of rock". **Simon Schata**

Cartography in the Media

Tracking software and gadgets

Sydney Morning Herald
3:58PM Friday Jul 29, 2011

Victoria Police successfully [used tracking software and a helicopter last December](#) to locate a boy who allegedly stole a woman's iPhone from a hospital in Melbourne's north-east.

Cabramatta Local Area Command in NSW in May said they had charged two men after a [tracking app in an iPhone assisted with their investigation](#).

There have also been countless overseas cases of people tracking down their stolen iPhones, iPads and MacBooks using tracking software. In these cases police have [had no issues with using the evidence](#).

In one overseas case, however, a youth baseball umpire reportedly [struck out at a man he thought had taken his iPhone](#) and was "arrested on charges of simple assault and disorderly conduct". The umpire reportedly used his son's phone to try and track down his iPhone which ended up being left behind at a "snack shack at the baseball field". It is believed there are concerns about using tracking software within some law enforcement agencies globally as it can give false positives, as demonstrated by the umpire overseas.

More stories on tracking gadgets down

- [No one takes Ange's iPhone for a ride](#)
- [App tracks iPhone thief in nine minutes](#)

Go to link:> <http://www.smh.com.au/digital-life/iphone/the-idiot-who-bought-a-stolen-iphone-and-the-10day-chase-to-track-it-down-20110728-1i1r7.html#ixzz1TTJxzknm>

Ouch!!

Senior public servant sacked over Currawong

Sean Nicholls
July 22, 2011



Bureaucrat Warwick Watkins.

THE senior bureaucrat at the centre of the Currawong corruption inquiry, Warwick Watkins, has been sacked from the public service after 41 years after admitting using a letter backdated by former planning minister Tony Kelly to mislead investigators.

.....

It is understood that Mr Watkins resigned from his positions as **NSW surveyor-general**, registrar-general and commissioner of the soil conservation service last week. During the inquiry Mr Watkins listed as among his other government roles **chairman of the Geographical Names Board and president of the Board of Surveying and Spatial Information**.

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Go to link:> <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/senior-public-servant-sacked-over-currawong-20110721-1hqxi.html#ixzz1T5l2s5Rw>

Mapping the Continent

From:



MAPPING THE CONTINENT
THURSDAY 21 JULY, 2011

The fragmented and often inaccessible nature of Australian data sets that interest the ecosystems research community, in particular those derived from satellite images, means that the understanding that can be gleaned from them has been piecemeal at best.

The AusCover team and facility, which provides a continental-scale collection of maps of biophysical parameters (e.g. vegetation structure) from satellite images, has begun the complex task of overseeing the compilation of past, present and future remote sensing data sets into a cohesive body of data.

As well as ensuring the data sets are spatially and temporally rich, the team is also making sure that they will be accessible.



Above: Dr Michael Schmidt, from the Queensland Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM), at work at a groundcover sampling site in Queensland (Photo courtesy of DERM)

Bottom: Field team undertaking canopy lidar measurements with the Echidna system in south-eastern Australia (Photo courtesy of D. Culvenor, CSIRO)

Go to link:> <http://www.tern.org.au/Newsletter-pg17740.html>

What Price Cartography?

Antiquarian books to go

James Cockington

August 3, 2011

The Age



Global appeal ... this Mercator map was included in a 1587 edition of the works of the classical geographer Strabo, and is valued at \$42,000.

Other significant items include the world map of Macrobius, dating from the 5th century, which first appeared in this very rare edition printed in Brescia, Italy, in 1483. The Macrobian map is especially prized because the word "antipodes" is used to describe the southern land mass.

The copy for sale comes from the personal library of the Duke of Marlborough, which may explain its price of \$185,000.

Go to link: > <http://www.theage.com.au/money/investing/antiquarian-books-to-go-20110802-1i8nr.html#ixzz1UJxb7ivz>

Who was that Patron of Cartographer?

Nov. 13, 1460: Death Stills Henry the Navigator

By Tony Long

1460: Infante Henrique (Prince Henry), known to history as Henry the Navigator, dies at 66 in Sagres, Portugal. While not a seafaring man himself, Henry's zealous advocacy and generous patronage of science, **cartography** and oceanic navigation effectively opens the age of European exploration.



Go to link: > <http://www.wired.com/thisdayintech/2009/11/1113prince-henry-navigator>

See Also:

- [Aug. 10, 1519: Magellan Sets Sail Into History](#)
- [Aug. 3, 1492: Columbus Sets Out to Discover ... a Trade Route](#)
- [Feb. 3, 1468: Gutenberg Dies](#)
- [Nov. 13, 1982: Teen Sets 'Asteroids' Record in 3-Day Marathon](#)
- [Nov. 13, 1946: Artificial Snow Falls for the First Time](#)

Maps of the World

1. Your Window to the World



- [World Maps in 800 Different Themes](#)
- [World Map - Political](#)
- [World Map - Physical](#)
- [World National Days](#)
- [World Map for Kids](#)
- [World Map In 50 Languages](#)
- [Wall Maps - Over 500 Options](#)

Go to link:> <http://www.mapsofworld.com/>

2. Worldmapper

Worldmapper is a collection of world maps, where territories are re-sized on each map according to the subject of interest.

There are now nearly 700 maps. Maps 1-366 are also available as PDF posters. Use the menu above to find a map of interest. To learn a little more about this and other map projections read this: [Worldmapper and map projections](#).

We recently added a new series of maps of the world's population using a new mapping technique: [Worldmapper Population Atlas](#)

See what we are currently working on: [Views of the World](#)

Reference maps ...



[Total Population](#)



[Land Area](#)



[Labelled Map](#)



[World Population Atlas:
Gridded Country maps](#)

Animations ...



[Land Area to Population](#)



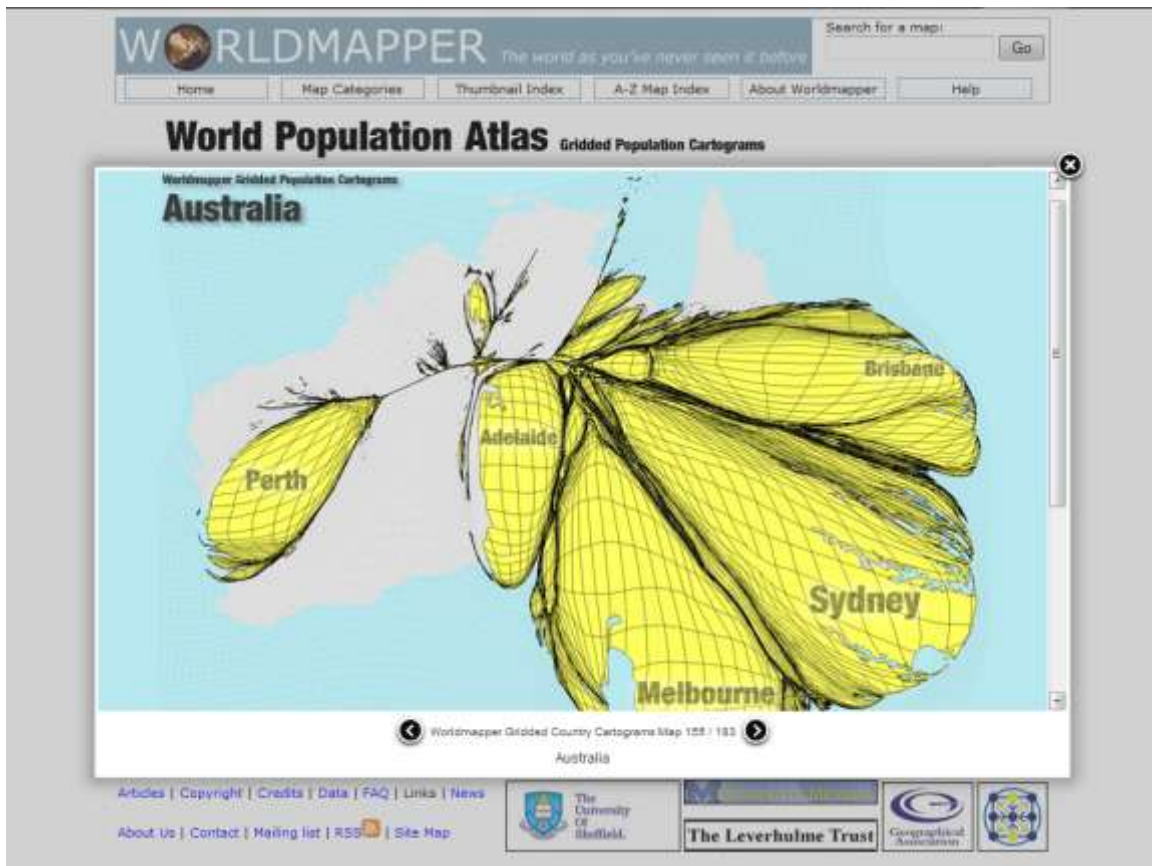
[Income \(Large file\)](#)



[Internet Users 2000-7](#)



[Age-of-death \(Large file\)](#)



Example: Australia sized according to population (Sorry Tassie!)

Go to link:> <http://www.worldmapper.org/>

Training Budding Cartographers

Mapping Our World - Thanks to OXFAM

Discover a unique perspective on the world with this interactive whiteboard resource for ages 8–14.



This unique interactive website works with maps and globes to transform pupils' understanding of the world.

Winner of a Geographical Association Gold award and a BAFTA award for primary learning, Mapping Our World allows pupils to flatten a globe, turn a map into a globe, and merge different map projections.

The nine structured activities come with teachers' notes and are designed for whole class learning on an interactive whiteboard or PC. The website supports the Geography curriculum and is also ideal for bringing a global approach to Citizenship, PSE and ICT.

- Flatten a globe into a map and transform a map into a globe.
- Merge different projections.
- Develop enquiry and problem-solving skills.
- Investigate how different maps affect our world view.

Go to link:> http://www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/mapping_our_world/

The Black Stump at Blackall

In 1887, the Surveyor-General of Queensland decided to fix the latitude and longitude of some of the more important towns in Queensland. This information would provide his cartographers with accurate coordinates for use in the compilation of the cadastral maps of the colony.

To achieve this, Surveyors RG McDowall and R Hoggan were instructed to visit these towns and carry out the necessary observations. The Town of Blackall was one such town visited by them in 1887. They first had to erect an observatory on a suitable site in the town close to

the electric telegraph office. The site chosen for Blackall was in the School Reserve (*seen below*).

The instrument used for the observations was a 20 inch transit. Because of its size and weight, it had to be placed on top of a large wooden stump sunk well into the ground. After the surveyors had departed, this "stump" remained in the school reserve for many years supposedly, until a grass fire blackened its exterior and after that time, it became known as the "Black Stump".

The longitude was determined by the meridian transit of stars and the exchange of time signals between Brisbane observatory and Blackall using the electric telegraph system. Latitude was determined by the method of ex meridian altitudes.

Transit on stump



THE BLACK STUMP

This historic site permanently marks the original Astro Station established in 1857 by the Surveyor-General for the purpose of survey, based on the principal meridional circuit traverse, around the town of Blackall. The circuit around Blackall was 27 miles square and contained an area of 729 sq. miles.

The Surveyors placed their theodolites on the stump for latitude and longitude observations. The stump was used rather than a set of legs because the theodolites used on such observations were of a large size.

This Astro Station was used as part of the survey to fix the position of principal towns extending from Brisbane to Boulia via Roma, Charleville and Blackall. This was designed to establish the points of important centres with which the survey work of the whole colony could be connected, and enable the mapping of Queensland on a more accurate basis. It was considered at the time that country to the west of Blackall was "beyond the Black Stump".

This piece of petrified wood replaces the original stump which was burnt out.

[Editors note: Sorry about the quality of these digital camera images.]

Spatial Data Providers

Spatial data providers for the USA, the UK, Canada, and Europe, such as GoeCommunity-GIS Data Depot (www.data.geocomm.com), Geography network clearinghouse (www.geographynetwork.com), Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (NASA) (www.Gcmd.gsfc.nasa.gov/ceosidn), and the USGS Geospatial Data Clearinghouse (www.nsd.usgs.gov). (Malczewski, 2004)

[Editors note: I have limited Internet at present and haven't been able to go to these links to verify that they are still current.]

Conferences

INTERGEO

27 to 29 September 2011

Nuremberg

Showcasing new technologies, systems, business solutions and services for all sectors. The world's leading trade fair and conference for geodesy, geoinformation and land management, nurtures active dialogue between some 500 companies and 17,500 decision-makers, developers and purchasers from throughout the world.

<http://limelightmail.com/newsletter/1353/496463?anr=>

Asia Geospatial Forum 2011 Secretariat

Geospatial Convergence – Paradigm for Future

17-19 October, 2011-08-16

Hotel Mulia Senayan, Jakarta, Indonesia

Website: www.asiageospatialforum.org/ Email - info@asiageospatialforum.org

2011 IEEE International Conference on Intelligent Computing and Intelligent Systems

(ICIS 2011) Call for Papers

November 18-20, 2011

Guangzhou, China

<http://www.ieee-icis.org>

spatial@gov(r) Conference

15 - 17 November 2011

National Convention Centre Canberra

<http://www.spatial.gov.au/>

or

<http://www.cebit.com.au/2011/conferences/spatial-at-gov>

The Surveying and Spatial Sciences Conference

November 21-25, 2011

Wellington, New Zealand.

It is a joint conference hosted by the New Zealand Institute of Surveyors and the Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute. Please register you interests at <http://sssc2011.org>

MODSIM 2011,

12-16 December,

International Congress on Modelling and Simulation,

Perth, Australia,

mssanz.org.au/modsim2011

InterCarto-InterGIS 17

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF TERRITORIES: GIS THEORY AND PRACTICE

December 14-15, 2011

Belokurikha, Altai Krai (Russia)

December 18-19, 2011

Denpasar, Bali (Indonesia)

<http://conf.nsc.ru/intercarto17>.

The International Congress Geotunis 2012

Sixth Session

26th to 30th March 2012

Tunisia,

“The use and the applications of GIS, remote sensing and digital modeling in the field of environment and in the management of natural resources and hazards”

Mercator Revisited – Cartography in the Age of Discovery

25-28 April, 2012

International conference

Sini-Niklaas, Belgium

Contact: contact@mercatorconference2012.be

For more information please consult the conference website:

www.mercatorconference2012.be

4th International Conference on Cartography and GIS

18-22 June, 2012

Albena - summer resort on Black Sea, Bulgaria.

The United Nations/Vietnam Workshop on Space Technology Applications for Socio-Economic Benefits Workshop

10 to 14 October 2011

Hanoi, Vietnam,.

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<http://www.oosa.unvienna.org/oosa/en/SAP/act2011/Vietnam/index.html>

NOTE: If you are involved in a workshop, symposium or conference related to cartography please send me brief details for the newsletter.

Analogue Crowd Sourcing

Back-of-Bourke – Where do tourists come from?

The maps below are located at the Back o' Bourke Exhibition Centre, Bourke, N.S.W.. Tourists are invited to place a pin at the location of their place of origin. The end result is the maps of Australia and the world, regularly updated and providing a valuable visual resource. [Creative cartographers can think of other applications I am sure.)



Australia: point-of-origin map



The World: point-of-origin map

Knowledge is knowing a map is a guide; Wisdom is not taking its content too literally.

