

COMMISSION ON THE HISTORY OF GEOGRAPHICAL THOUGHT

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Editor: Geographers : Biobibliographical Studies

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Commission symposium on «Religion, ideology, and geographic thought» (Sandomierz, Poland, 14–18 July 1997)

The Commission organizer was Ute Wardenga (Germany) and the local coordinator was Witold Wilczynski (Poland). 25 persons from 11 different countries actively contributed to 8 paper sessions and 5 field sessions. The objectives of the symposium fitted well within the overall theme of the Commission's work, i.e. the history of the geographical approaches to global diversity, fragmentation and change. More specifically, the symposium dealt with religious and ideological influences on the construction of geographical knowledge, and on the human use of the Earth in the context of growing political conflicts and cultural fragmentation. The very place of Sandomierz was ideal for studying these issues, as there East meets West (in both cultural and physiographic senses).

In a general way, the presentations brought out two principal themes. The first one concerns the influence of ideologies and religion on geographical practice and on the development of geographical knowledge. This theme was expounded by colleagues from Germany, Israel, Argentina, Romania, Spain, Japan, and Poland. Ute Wardenga (Leipzig) and Haim Goren ((Qiryat Shemona) picked up the question of theological and biblical influences, and Jozsef Benedek (Cluj) reported on the influence of totalitarian socialism. Other state ideological influences were tackled by Maria Dolors Garcia Ramon and Abel Albet i Mas (Barcelona), and Perla Brigida Zusman and Ana Maria Liberali (Buenos Aires). Teresa Vicente Mosquete (Salamanca) read a paper on anarchism and the concepts of Kropotkin and Reclus. Keiichi Takeuchi (Tokyo) presented the concepts of the Buddhist geographer Tsunetsaburo Makiguchi. Only Elzbieta Orłowska (Breslau) ventured far outside the contemporary period (the last 200 years) in her discussion of the importance of the medieval Arab–Muslim culture for the modern geographical point of view.

Other papers covered a diversity of topics but were concerned with the manner in which religion and ideology are reflected in land use, land management practices, economic and social questions, regional images, etc. This theme attracted the attention of colleagues coming from a variety of countries including Poland, Israel, Argentina, Italy, and New Zealand. Father Christopher Rusiecki (Sandomierz), Florian Plit (Warsaw), and Lena Opoka (Kielce) explained the importance of Christianity for the understanding of Polish landscapes. Boleslaw Domanski (Krakow), on the other hand, read a paper on the manifestation of the so-called real socialism in urban landscapes. These presentations were crucial from the point of view of the subsequent field sessions. Izhak Schnell (Tel–Aviv) presented transformations in the geographical picture of Israel as an

Activities in 1997 have allowed the Commission to start its new programme, which was approved for the period 1997–2001 by the General Assembly of the IUHPS (Division the History of Science) at the Congress in Liège last August. Our first meetings and collaborative efforts have confirmed the international nature of our Commission. Efforts to integrate countries from the 'South' into the work of the Commission are being encouraged, and further initiatives are being developed.

In order to improve the flow of information, the Newsletter will in future present a brief account of the main activities of the Commission in French and in English. In addition it will be possible to include short notes (for examples notices of meetings or particulars of publications) in either language. The present Newsletter illustrates this initiative.

The two meetings of the Commission in 1997, at Sandomierz and at Liège, have dealt with the difficulties that geography has had in forming links with two very important dimensions of the human experience: those of religion and of technology. The coming year will provide further opportunities for discussions on the international circulation of geographical ideas. We look forward to welcoming you to Lisbon!

Vincent Berdoulay

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Planned conferences (provisional list):

IGU Regional Conference, Lisbon, 1998
Specialist Workshop, Leipzig, 1999
Commission symposium, Yaounde, 1999
IGU Congress, Seoul, 2000
IUHPS Congress, Mexico, 2001

element of the Zionist world view, based on memoirs, artistic and political sources. Perla Brigida Zusman showed the importance of the ideology of 'civilisation and progress' for the formation of Argentinian statehood, while Giuseppe Campione (Messina) elucidated the very complex issue of the origin and idealistic charge of monotheism and its links with the problem of conflicts in the Mediterranean region. The remaining papers looked at oriental environments. Hong-key Yoon (Auckland) delivered a paper in which he made a comparison between Chinese and Maori geomentalities. Mateusz Wiercinski (Kielce) reported on the relationships which exist between cultural change among tribal populations in India and land management practices.

This event was an excellent opportunity to expand one's knowledge of different cultural traditions in geographic thought and to improve one's understanding of religious and ideological concepts. In addition it was felt that there needed to be some encouragement for cooperation amongst historians of geographical thought in order to bring about new insights into the role of Marxist-Leninist doctrine in the history of geography in Eastern European countries.

Special sessions of the Commission on «Geography and cartography in the contemporary period (since 1800)» (XXth International Congress of History of Science, Liège, 22–23 July 1997)

The Commission was instrumental in organizing these sessions and in having them focus on the issue of technology. They were coordinated by Vincent Berdoulay (France) and Ute Wardenga (Germany), with the local assistance of C. Christians and M. Watelet (Belgium). Twelve papers were scheduled, from 9 different countries. While at Sandomierz the majority of the papers were in English, around half of those presented at Liège were in French. The papers and the discussions brought out the multifaceted and complex issue of the ways in which technology had been considered in geography.

Some papers approached the question by way of case studies, for example the papers by Jean-Yves Puyo (Pau), Stephen Driever (Missouri-Kansas City), Marion Hercock (Western Australia) and Marcel Watelet (Liege). Other papers approached the topic through a particular theme, or a particular time-period, as those by Francis Harvey (Lausanne), Grigoriy Kostinskiy (Moscow), and Viatcheslav A. Shuper (Moscow). Finally, other papers looked at technology in its multitude of forms and over the long term; these papers included those of Ute Wardenga (Leipzig), Witold Wilczynski (Kielce), and particularly René Blais (Moncton) who contributed most to the building of a theory of the difficult relationship between geography and technology.

The symposium allowed the clarification of the various dimensions of the issue (humanistic and ethical, transdisciplinary, institutional, cognitive, social, material). The ties with myth, ideology, cartography, and land planning were also developed. Most noteworthy, it was emphasised that geographic thought was often successful in opposing to a reductionist, restricted view of technology, in both fundamental research as in applied fields.

Co-sponsoring of the symposium 'On the centenary of Ratzel's Politische Geographie: Europe between political geography and geopolitics', organized by the Commission on the World Political Map (Trieste, Italy, 10–13 Dec. 1997): Several of the papers are focussing on historical and epistemological aspects of the work of Ratzel.

Publications in progress

Some of the papers discussed during the Sandomierz symposium have been selected for a volume soon to be published under the editorship of Ute Wardenga and Witold Wilczynski. Several of those presented at Liège are to be published in the Proceedings of the Congress. In addition, a book edited by Anne Buttner and Stanley Brunn on Text and image is soon to be published by the university press in Leipzig. The *Newsletter* continues to appear annually. The series *Geographers: Biobibliographical Studies* (edited by Geoffrey Martin and Patrick Armstrong) also continues. Finally, Vincent Berdoulay, assisted by Ahmed Bencheikh and Olivier Soubeyran, has reached an agreement with L'Harmattan publishing house for a volume of collected essays on 'Milieu, colonisation et développement durable'.

Mother Teresa. A note from Sitanshu Mookerjee

As a young, enthusiastic Nun from Albania, Mother Teresa came to India more than 50 years ago to teach Geography at a Calcutta school. But soon after she found her real mission in life to alleviate human suffering on this planet and created a world wide organisation to care for the needy, the sick and the poor. For her outstanding service to humanity, she was awarded the Nobel Prize, the first and only time won by a professional geographer. Were she to have headed an IGU Commission, that would have been on "geo-piety" (using Yi-Fu Tuan's coinage of this term). After returning from the IGU Congress in Den Haag, S. Mookerjee wrote a letter to Mother Teresa personally. She replied to his letter promptly and asked him to see her any day in August (1996), but the very next day Mother Teresa became terribly ill. She died in september 1997. The international geographical community should hail the indomitable will of this great woman who has made an enormous effort to bring about an environment of love and charity in this world of poverty and plenty affecting the condition of man.

Geographers: Biobibliographical Studies

This series, published by Mansell Publishing Ltd of London, continues to appear regularly, edited by Geoffrey Martin (USA) and Patrick Armstrong (Australia). Volume 17 appeared early in 1997, and included essays on the following: Al-Kindi, Thomas Bonney, William Bruce, Adolphus Greely, Wilfred Kendrew, Friedrich Leichhart, Peter Pellas, Sir Robert Sibbald, Jaime Vives and James Watson. The series continues to be a significant source of reference for studies on the history of geographical thought.

Volume 18 is in press, and should appear late in 1997 or early in 1998; as with previous volumes it will contain essays on those who have influenced the history of the subject from many countries of the world. Figures described include: Terence Armstrong, the authority on the Russian Arctic; Frederic Clements, the contributor to ecological theory; Magellan; and John Lort Stokes, the hydrographer.

The editors are always willing to consider good quality essays on leading figures in the history of geographical thought: these are sometimes those who have made important contributions to the development of geographical ideas from outside the discipline. The editors particularly seek essays from South America, Africa, Asia and the Pacific. Potential contributors are invited to make preliminary contact with either of the editors, to inspect the format used in recent volumes, and to note that essays submitted may be refereed.

Recent Activities of Some U.S. Geographers in the history of geography

Allen Bushong (Professor emeritus, University of South Carolina) is a member of the AAG committees on Archives and Association History, Constitution and Bylaws, and Centennial Planning and will chair a panel on the history of North American geography at the annual AAG meeting in Boston in 1998. He is Historian of the AAG's Southeastern Division and will deliver a major address at the 50th anniversary meeting of the Division in Birmingham, Alabama in November 1997. In 1996 he published the third edition of *A Brief History of Geography* at the University of South Carolina.

Gary Dunbar (Professor emeritus, University of California, Los Angeles) published two books in 1996 (*Biographical Dictionary of American Geography in the Twentieth Century*, 2nd ed., and *The History of Geography: Collected Essays*). For *Geographers: Biobibliographical Studies* he has written essays on Frank Gilbert Roe (1878-1973) and William Dunbar (1749-1810) and will soon finish a biographical sketch of Owen Lattimore (1900-1989).

Paul Frederic (University of Maine at Farmington) is the chairman of the Association of American Geographers Specialty Group on the History of Geography. Susan Friedman (Pennsylvania State University) published a book in 1996 (*Marc Bloch, Sociology and Geography: Encountering Changing Disciplines*, Cambridge Univ. Press) and her current research is focussed on Jules Sion and Albert Demangeon. William Koelsch (Clark University) reports: "My research in the history of geography over the last forty years has centered on four areas: (a) studies of historical geography and of individual historical geographers, (b) studies in the history of geography in New England (principally at Clark and Harvard universities), (c) biographical and institutional studies of the history of meteorology and climatology, and (d) studies in the relationships of geography and the classics. During 1997-98 I shall be giving conference papers on the history of the New England/St. Lawrence Valley Geographical Society, on G. Stanley Hall and school geography, and on Arnold Henry Guyot's work in New England. Since 1990 I have been making a long term study of the classical geography and its practitioners in Britain and America since the late 18th century, based in archival and manuscript collections".

Geoffrey Martin (Professor emeritus, Southern Connecticut State University) edits (with Patrick Armstrong) the Commission's annual publication, *Geographers: Biobibliographical Studies*. Martin has written on 400 years of geography for a special issue of *Economic Geography* that will appear in Spring 1998, and he has recently provided an address on the development of geography for the 75th anniversary of the founding of the New England division of the Association of American Geographers.

Janice Monk (Southwest Institute for Research on Women, University of Arizona) is engaged in an extensive project on the history of women in U.S. geography from the late nineteenth century to the present. Her paper on the graduate education of women at Clark University, "The Women Were Always Welcome at Clark", will be published in a special issue of *Economic Geography* in Spring 1998.

Susan Schulten (Department of History, University of Denver) completed her Ph.D. dissertation, "The Transformation of World Geography in American Life, 1889-1950", at the University of Pennsylvania in 1995. She delivered a paper on Richard Edes Harrison at the International Conference on the History of Cartography in Lisbon in July 1997 and will give a paper on "World War II and American Cartography" at the American Historical Association meetings in Seattle in January 1998.

Neil Smith (Rutgers University) "received a Guggenheim fellowship last year to complete his voluminous study, *The Geographical Pivot of History; Isaiah Bowman and the Geography of the American Century*. This book uses the varied and fascinating career of US geographer Isaiah Bowman (1878-1950) to argue against the traditional historical argument that the shift from a European centered colonial model of world political economy to an economically centered American globalism in the first half of the twentieth century was simultaneously a shift away from geography".

William Speth (independent scholar, Ellensburg, Washington) has written several articles and book chapters, mostly on Carl Sauer and the Berkeley School of Geography.

Several of these people have called attention to various American archives that contain important materials for researchers in the history of American geography:

1. The archives of the Association of American Geographers, long held by the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, were transferred in April 1997 to the American Geographical Society Collection in the Golda Meir Library of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

2. (Schulten) The Newberry Library in Chicago, which contains the Smith Center of Cartography, has acquired the archives of the Rand McNally map publishing firm.

3. (Speth) The archives of the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers are housed in the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies at Western Washington University, Bellingham (Dr. James W. Scott, Archivist). The APCG, founded in 1935, also functions as the Pacific Coast Division of the Association of American Geographers. Beginning in 1990 its Yearbook has included several articles describing the histories of several university departments of geography in the Northwestern United States and British Columbia.

4. (Dunbar) The American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia is the oldest learned society in the United States. Its library, which houses more than 180,000 volumes, six million manuscripts, and thousands of maps and prints, is a major national center for research in the history of science and technology, as well as America to 1840. Although the archives of the Association of American Geographers were transferred from the APS to Milwaukee in April 1997 (see above), there is still a great deal of interest to the geographer here. In March 1997 the APS sponsored a conference, "Surveying the Record: North American Scientific Exploration to 1900".

5. (Monk) The archives for the Society of Woman Geographers are found in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress. Dr. Monk also cited the usefulness of the archives and special collections departments at

Clark University, the University of Chicago, the University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of Washington for researchers interested in the work of women in the field of geography.

6. (Monk) Maynard Weston Dow of Plymouth State College, New Hampshire, has produced an invaluable collection of videotaped interviews with geographers.

7. (Monk) The archives of the American Geographical Society still reside at the Society's headquarters in New

York City and were not moved to Milwaukee with the AGS Library and map collection.

For information on other manuscript collections of usefulness to historians of geography, one should consult Geoffrey Martin, William Koelsch, and Allen Bushong.

Gary Dunbar

Ouvrages récents publiés au Brésil

BELLUZO, Ana Maria de Moraes (org.), *O Brasil dos Viajantes* [Le Brésil des voyageurs], São Paulo, Fundação Odebrecht, 1994, 3v.

V. 1: *Imaginário do Novo Mundo* [L'imaginaire du Nouveau Monde], 156 p.

V. 2: *Um lugar no universo* [Un lieu dans l'univers], 167 p.

V. 3: *A construção da paisagem* [La construction du paysage], 191 p.

CARLOS, Ana Fani Alessandri (org.), *Os caminhos da reflexão sobre a cidade e o urbano* [Les chemins de réflexion sur la ville et l'urbain], São Paulo, edUSP, 1994, 390 p.

Notamment: ABREU, Mauricio de Almeida, "O estudo geográfico da cidade no Brasil: Evolução e avaliação (contribuição à história do pensamento geográfico brasileiro)" [L'étude géographique de la ville au Brésil: évolution et appréciation (contribution à l'histoire de la pensée géographique brésilienne)], p. 309-322.

CASTRO, I., GOMES, P., CORREA, R. (org.), *Geografia: Conceitos e temas* [Géographie: concepts et thèmes], Rio de Janeiro, Bertrand Brasil, 1995, 353 p.

Notamment: MACHADO, Lia Osorio, "Origens do pensamento geográfico no Brasil: meio tropical, espaços vazios e a ideia de ordem (1870-1930)" [Les origines de la pensée géographique au Brésil: milieu tropical, espaces vides et idée d'ordre (1870-1930)], p. 309-353.

CASTRO, I., GOMES, P., CORREA, R. (org.), *Brasil: Questões atuais da reorganização do território* [Brésil: Questions actuelles de la réorganisation du territoire], Rio de Janeiro, Bertrand Brasil, 1996, 468 p.

CORREA, Roberto Lobato, *Trajetórias geográficas* [Trajectoires géographiques], (préface de Milton Santos), sous presse. Une réflexion sur les courants de la pensée géographique brésilienne à partir de 1960.

ESCOLAR, Marcelo, *Critica do discurso geográfico* [Critique du discours géographique], São Paulo, HUCITEC, 1996, 175 p.

GOMES, Paulo Cesar Da Costa, *Geografia e modernidade* [Géographie et modernité], Rio de Janeiro, Bertrand Brasil, 1996, 366 p.

SOUZA, Maria Adélia Aparecida (org.), *O mundo do Cidadão: um cidadão do mundo* [Le monde du citoyen: un citoyen du monde], São Paulo, HUCITEC, 1996, 319 p. Témoignages de plusieurs géographes nationaux et étrangers sur Milton Santos, sa vie et son œuvre.

SANTOS, Milton, *A natureza do espaço. Técnica e tempo. Razão e emoção* [La nature de l'espace. Technique et temps. Raison et émotion], São Paulo, HUCITEC, 1996, 308 p.

GERBI, Antonello, *O Novo Mundo: História de uma polêmica (1750-1900)* [Le Nouveau Monde: histoire d'une polémique (1750-1900)], traduction de l'original italien 1955, São Paulo, Cia. Das Letras, 1996, 807 p.

SCHAMA, Simon, *Paisagem e memória* [Paysage et mémoire], traduction de l'original anglais 1995, São Paulo, Cia. Das Letras, 1996, 645 p.

Lia Osorio Machado

**INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL UNION
UNION GÉOGRAPHIQUE INTERNATIONALE**

**Commission on the History of Geographical Thought
Commission Histoire de la Pensée géographique**

SPECIALIST WORKSHOP / ATELIER SPÉCIALISÉ

It is planned to hold a specialist workshop on the use of archival material for research in the History of Geographical Thought in Leipzig in January 1999. The programme is to be coordinated by two full members of the Commission, Ute Wardenga (Institut für Länderkunde, Leipzig, Germany) and Patrick Armstrong (Geography Department, University of Western Australia). It is hoped that there will be papers on such topics as:

Archival Resources for study of the History of Geography

Techniques of Archival Use

Problems of Access

Interpreting the Sources

An Inventory of Geographical Archives: Where Now?

The above list of suggestions is not intended to be exhaustive.

As well as formal papers, it is hoped that there may be opportunities for "hands-on" sessions, and suggestions for such activities will be particularly welcomed.

The proposed dates of the meeting are Friday 15 January (arrival) to Monday 18 January 1999 (departure).

Those who have suggestions for papers or workshop sessions should contact one of the organisers:

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SPECIALIST WORKSHOP / ATELIER SPÉCIALISÉ

Un atelier spécialisé sur l'utilisation d'archives pour la recherche en histoire de la pensée géographique est prévu à Leipzig en janvier 1999. Le programme sera coordonné par deux membres de la Commission, Ute Wardenga (Institut für Länderkunde, Leipzig, Allemagne) et Patrick Armstrong (Geography Department, University of Western Australia). On espère des interventions sur des thèmes tels que:

Les types d'archives pour l'étude de l'histoire de la géographie

Les techniques d'utilisation des archives

Les problèmes d'accès

L'interprétation des sources

Un inventaire des archives géographiques: où en est-on?

Cette liste de suggestions ne doit pas être considérée comme exhaustive.

En plus de communications formelles, il pourra y avoir des sessions "pratiques" ou "de terrain", et des propositions en ce sens seront particulièrement bien accueillies.

Les dates prévues pour la rencontre vont du vendredi 15 janvier (arrivée) au lundi 18 janvier 1999 (départ).

Les personnes intéressées à faire des propositions de communication ou de sessions pour l'atelier doivent contacter un des deux organisateurs:

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