



CAIRT

Issue 19
July 2011

Newsletter of the Scottish Maps Forum

In this issue:

- **Scotland: Mapping the Nation**
- **Alexander Nimmo's Inverness Survey**
- **Housing Paper Worlds display**
- **Did Blaeu copy Pont or Gordon?**
- **Bartholomew and Grange Loan**
- **New acquisitions**

SCOTTISH MAPS FORUM

The Forum was initiated by the National Library of Scotland in January 2002:

- ♦ To stimulate and to encourage multi-disciplinary map use, study and research, particularly relating to Scottish maps and mapmakers
- ♦ To disseminate information on Scottish maps and map collections
- ♦ To record information on maps and mapmaking, particularly in a Scottish context
- ♦ To liaise with other groups and individuals with map related interests
- ♦ To build on, and to continue, the work of Project Pont

CAIRT

The newsletter is issued twice a year. "Cairt" is Gaelic & 17th century Scots for map.

For further information, or to be added to the mailing list, please contact:

Scottish Maps Forum
National Library of Scotland
159 Causewayside
Edinburgh
EH9 1PH

Tel: 0131 623 3970
Fax: 0131 623 3971
E-mail: maps@nls.uk

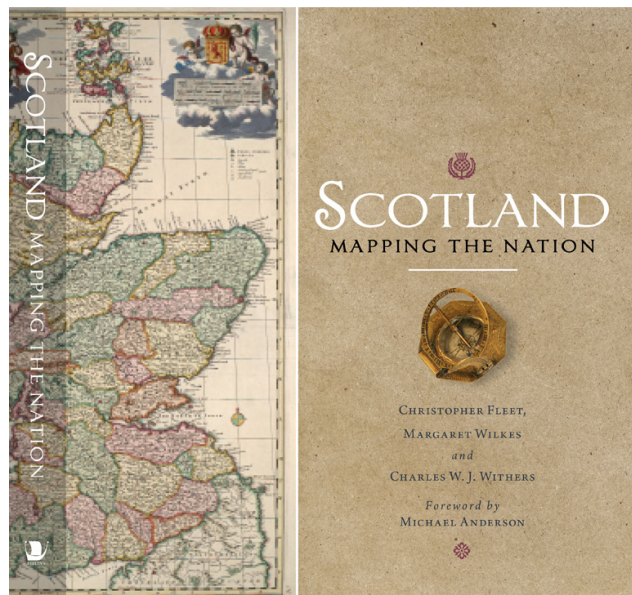


ISSN 1477-4186 © 2011 NLS
Editor: Chris Fleet

Scotland: Mapping the Nation

This eagerly awaited new book will be published by Birlinn, in association with the National Library of Scotland in September 2011. This is the first book to take Scottish maps seriously as a form of history, from the earliest representations of Scotland by Ptolemy in the second century AD through to the most recent form of Scotland's geographical representation in GIS, satellite imagery and SATNAV.

With 336 pages, and over 220 full-colour plates, the book aims to provide a history of Scotland told from the innovative perspective of maps and map-making. The book also shows when and how Scotland has been shown on maps, at different times and in different ways. In addition, it illuminates the context to the nation's maps, to show something of why Scotland's maps look as they do at different periods and for different themes.



"This beautiful and fascinating book is a real eye-opener. It is utterly absorbing: when you have read it you will never think of maps, or perhaps of Scotland, in the same way again."

T.C. Smout, Professor Emeritus of Scottish History at the University of St Andrews and Historiographer Royal for Scotland

"Few books are awaited with such eager anticipation. The authors [of this book] write of being 'enthralled' by their subject. It shines from every page, and so does their scholarship."

Nicholas Crane, writer, broadcaster, author of *Mercator: The Man Who Mapped the Planet*

Scotland: Mapping the Nation, by Christopher Fleet, Margaret Wilkes, and Charles W.J. Withers.

Birlinn, in association with the National Library of Scotland
ISBN 978 1 84158 969 5
£30 hardback. 250 x 246 mm

Those ordering before 31 August 2011 can save £5 – phone 0845 370 0067 quoting MS511.

There will be a public talk and launch event in the National Library of Scotland on 4 October 2011 - further details to follow, and online booking form, both at:

<http://www.nls.uk/events>

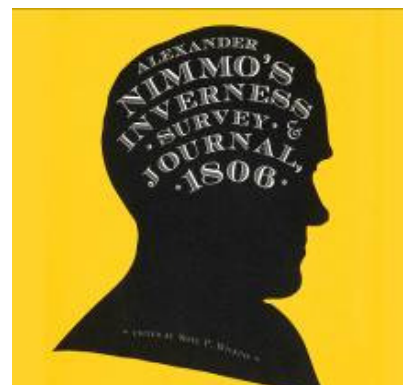
The first three chapters provide a chronological overview, whilst chapters 4-13 take a thematic approach:

- Chapter 1 Putting Scotland on the map
- Chapter 2 Maps of Scotland before c.1595
- Chapter 3 A kingdom and a nation depicted, c.1583–1700
- Chapter 4 Scotland occupied and defended
- Chapter 5 Towns and urban life
- Chapter 6 The changing countryside
- Chapter 7 Islands and island life
- Chapter 8 Seas and waters
- Chapter 9 Travel and communications
- Chapter 10 Mapping science
- Chapter 11 Open spaces – recreation and leisure
- Chapter 12 Popular culture
- Chapter 13 Maps at work – working with maps

Alexander Nimmo's Inverness Survey and Journal, 1806

In June the Royal Irish Academy launched a new book - *Alexander Nimmo's Inverness Survey and Journal, 1806* edited by Noël P. Wilkins. This year is the 200th anniversary of Alexander Nimmo's election to the Fellowship of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and of his appointment as engineer to the Commission for the Bogs of Ireland.

Alexander Nimmo was born in 1783, probably in Cupar Fife, and became Rector of Inverness Academy in 1805. In 1806, on Thomas Telford's recommendation, he was commissioned to undertake a survey of the boundaries of Inverness-shire and to insert them on a draft new map of Scotland - Aaron Arrowsmith's *Map of Scotland* of 1807. In the course of his survey Nimmo maintained a personal journal in which he recorded a variety of observations and data. This journal, held in NLS (Adv.MS.34.4.20) is a valuable and interesting first-hand contemporary account of many aspects



of life and change in Inverness-shire and the Highlands at a most important time in their history. It is also a seminal document in Nimmo's personal transformation from schoolmaster to engineer. His experience of the survey would lead ultimately to his resignation from the Rectorship in 1811 to join the Commission for the Bogs of Ireland as an engineer. His journal therefore gives us an insight into the genesis of the approach that he would bring to his surveys of county Kerry and Connemara in 1811-12 and 1813, respectively, and later to all of the west of Ireland where he was government engineer from 1823 to 1832. In his Irish engineering career, which would last until his death in 1832, Nimmo appears to have emulated Telford's iconic Scottish role: what Telford was to the Highlands of Scotland, Nimmo would strive to be to Ireland.

Nimmo's journal is also a useful source of information into the construction of one of Scotland's most important maps, Aaron Arrowsmith's *Map of Scotland* of 1807. His work confirms the thoroughness and care taken in the compilation of this map, as well as a helpful evaluation of its trustworthiness for different categories of information. Nimmo also provides an engaging account of the practicalities of map and boundary delineation in the early nineteenth century. His journal is an honest and perceptive assessment of the varied utility of different sources of information - maps, charters, shepherds, tenant farmers, estate factors, and landowners - in confirming the complex patterns of land ownership for farms, landed estates and county jurisdictions. More generally and fundamentally, through his comments on mapping and surveying, he illustrates the changing nature of map-making and the values that both drove it and were reflected in it during the early 19th century.

As well as containing a transcription of Nimmo's journal and reproductions of two maps, the volume includes essays by Noël Wilkins of the University of Galway, Jim Hunter of University of the Highlands & Islands, Robert Preece, formerly of Inverness Academy, and Chris Fleet of the National Library of Scotland.

Alexander Nimmo's Inverness survey & journal, 1806 / edited by Noël P. Wilkins. (Dublin : Royal Irish Academy, 2011). £30 hardback ISBN 978-1-904890-74-4

New arrangements for access to maps and plans in the National Records of Scotland

The National Archives of Scotland merged with the General Register Office for Scotland on 1st April 2011 to form the National Records of Scotland (NRS).

The West Search Room, in West Register House, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, where the plan collection (RHP) has been consulted since April 1971, closed to the public for the last time on Friday 25th February 2011. Access to the collection was suspended between 1st February and 4th May 2011 in order to allow new plan cabinets to be installed at Thomas Thomson House and for plans to be transferred there from West Register House.

Imaging-on-demand for access

From 4th May 2011 access will normally be given to digital images of plans in the Historical Search Room at General Register House, rather than to the originals. You can find out if the plan you would like to see has already been digitized by consulting the Online Public Access Catalogue

<http://www.nas.gov.uk/onlineCatalogue/>). Where a plan has not already been imaged, we aim to make an image available in the Historical Search Room within ten working days of the request being accepted. Requests to view up to five plans at a time can be made either in person or in writing. If, after viewing the image, you consider that your research would benefit significantly from inspecting the original, then you should complete the online application form for access to original records.

Cases where imaging is not possible

If the NRS is unable to make an image available for preservation, technical, ownership or copyright reasons, it may be possible to inspect the original plan at Thomas Thomson House. The newly-created plan research facility at Thomas Thomson House, 99

Bankhead Crossway North, Edinburgh, will be open to the public, strictly by appointment with the Historical Search Room, each Wednesday, 9.30am-12.30pm and 1.30-4.00pm. The facility can accommodate a maximum of three researchers per session (ie. morning or afternoon).

The protection and preservation of the records in our holdings is one of the prime functions of the work of NRS staff. We have a fully equipped and staffed conservation studio and a rolling programme to assess and treat damaged documents. Inevitably, however, there may be times when readers wish to see plans that are not fit for imaging or public access. In such cases the status of the plans concerned will be reviewed by Conservation staff. Where it is decided that access cannot be provided either to the original plan or to a digital surrogate, the reasons for this decision (eg. other demands on limited professional resources) will be stated.

Enquiries

All enquires about access to plans should be directed to the Historical Search Room, The National Records of Scotland, HM General Register House, 2 Princes Street, Edinburgh EH1 3YY; tel: 0131 535 1334; email: enquiries@nas.gov.uk.

On-line access

Digital images of over two thousand maps and plans from the NRS's RHP collection can also be viewed on the ScotlandsPlaces website (<http://www.scotlandspplaces.gov.uk>), and more images are being added on a regular basis.

John McLintock

Head of Maps and Plans, National Records of Scotland.

Housing Paper Worlds display

Architectural designs and 11 new Edinburgh maps created by Dundee University architecture students in collaboration with the National Library of Scotland have gone on display in the NLS Maps Reading Room.

The fourth-year students have designed a new Cartographic Institute in Edinburgh, based on two currently vacant sites. Striking and original artwork, designs and plans for the building are displayed alongside the maps, setting the sites in context. The maps were created to develop a cultural, economic, historical, architectural, and geographic understanding of the city. These insights have informed the designs for the new institute in the heart of Edinburgh's Old Town.

The institute is a complex proposition that challenged the young designers to make a public building from spaces that are typically highly sensitive and often private. The solutions display a diverse range of imaginative and engaging designs for contemporary buildings within the historic fabric of the city.



30 May to 26 August 2011, NLS Maps Reading Room

Did Blaeu copy from Pont or Gordon?

Bob Henery, from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Strathclyde, applies digital cartometric techniques to assess the likely provenance of Blaeu's maps

Blaeu's engraved maps of Scotland are miracles of art and accuracy considering that most of them are based on Timothy Pont's maps, which are often untidy and almost illegible. Indeed Pont maps are often so jumbled that they are thought to be merely working drafts from which final drafts would be prepared for Blaeu's use. And Robert Gordon did exactly that for some maps, but there is no sure sign on the engravings to tell us whether this did or did not happen. So how can we tell if Blaeu worked directly from a Pont map, or from a Gordon copy? The answer lies in the accuracy with which Blaeu locates his settlements compared to the relative inaccuracy of Gordon copies. Indeed we would expect Blaeu, as one of the leading map engravers in Europe, to be much better than Gordon when it came to making copies of maps. More generally we would expect Blaeu to give an accurate rendering of whatever map he was working from. If he was working from a Pont map, his locations would match those on the Pont map very accurately (as in *Nithia*). If he was given a Gordon copy, Gordon's locations would be accurately reproduced (as in *Cathenesia*), but, as they already have inbuilt errors introduced by Gordon, the *Cathenesia* engraving cannot match the Pont original so well.

I have compared ten Blaeu engravings with various maps by Pont and Gordon. The extent to which an engraving matches the locations on the map can be judged by comparing the image of the map with a scaled and rotated image of the engraving. Concentrating on settlements, we can measure the deviation in pixels of each engraved symbol from its corresponding map symbol. The median deviation gives a direct measure of how accurately the engraving matches settlement locations in the map. With maps viewed on an approximate scale of one mile to 100 pixels, the settlements in Blaeu's engraving *Nithia* are only about 16.85 pixels away from where they should be according to Pont's map of Nithsdale. Engraving/map pairs that match each other very well are listed in Table 1.

Map	Blaeu engraving	Deviation from map
Pont 35 Nithsdale	<i>Nithia</i>	16.85
Pont 33 Renfrew	<i>Renfroana</i>	18.89
Pont 2 Strathnaver	<i>Strathnavernia</i>	27.07
Pont 32 Stirling	<i>Sterlinensis</i>	14.06
Pont 34 Clydesdale	<i>Glottiana</i>	13.50
Gordon 9 Caithness	<i>Cathenesia</i>	22.93
James Gordon Fife	<i>Fifae</i>	11.80

Table 1. Engraving is well matched to map. Blaeu worked directly from the given map.

Robert Gordon also made copies of some Pont maps, and this allows us to compare his performance as a copyist with Blaeu. The copies that he made of the Pont maps of Nithsdale and Renfrew are particularly interesting, and in Table we list the accuracy achieved by Gordon in these two cases. Compared to Blaeu's engravings of *Nithia* and *Renfroana* Gordon's copies are much poorer in terms of accuracy.

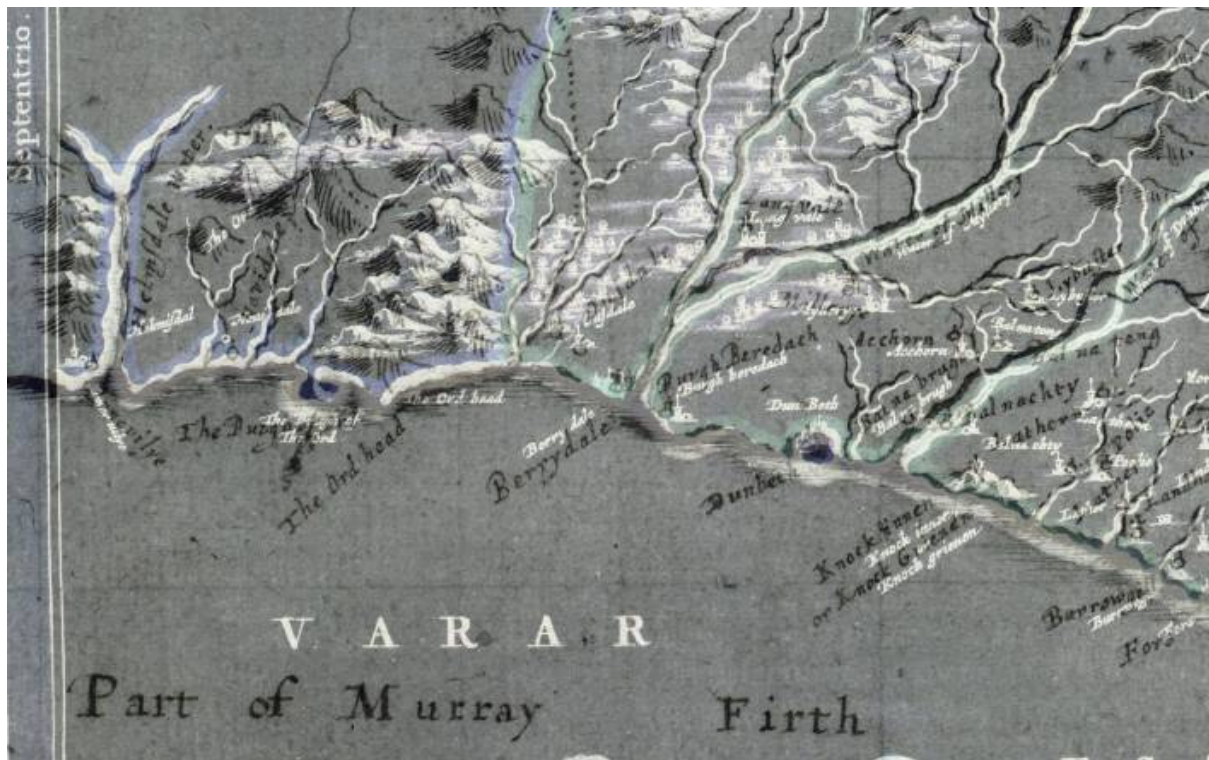
Map	Gordon map	Deviation from map
Pont 35 Nithsdale	Gordon 62 <i>Nithsdail</i>	65.47
Pont 33 Renfrew	Gordon 55 <i>Ranfrew</i>	39.56

Table 2. Gordon copies are not nearly as good a match to Pont as the Blaeu engravings.

Making such a good job of matching his engraving to a particular map, as Blaeu does for the engravings in Table 1, is a sure sign that Blaeu has taken his coordinates directly from that map, and not from any intermediate draft, by Gordon or anyone else. Had Blaeu based his engraving *Nithia* on Gordon 62, it would not be possible for him to get his locations so close to Pont's original map. Nor would it be possible for *Renfroana* to be so close to Pont's map of Renfrew, nor for any Pont map that was filtered through the medium of a Gordon copy. The deviations from Pont's original would be greater than those in Table 2. Going back to the engravings in Table 1, we can be very confident that Blaeu was working directly from Pont's original maps of Nithsdale, Renfrew, Strathnaver, Stirling, and Clydesdale, because all these engravings are very close to the Pont originals. Likewise Blaeu worked directly from Robert Gordon's map of Caithness, and from James Gordon's map of Fife. On the other hand, when we find a large discrepancy between the Blaeu engraving and the corresponding Pont map we can deduce that Blaeu based his engraving on a Gordon copy. Equally well, if there is a large discrepancy between a Blaeu engraving and a Gordon map we can deduce that Blaeu did not copy from that map, and so presumably he worked from the Pont original.

Jeffrey Stone (2001)¹ states that among Pont maps listed in Table 1, only *Nidisdale* was the final draft used by Blaeu, whereas the evidence of Table 1 points to **all** the engravings in Table 1, including *Renfroana*, *Strathnavernia*, *Sterlinensis*, and the two *Glottianas*, as being engraved by Blaeu without the aid of Gordon.

(except for boundaries and the odd additional settlement). Jeffrey Stone lists Blaeu's *Cathenesia* among thirty five maps engraved by Blaeu directly from Pont manuscripts, whereas according to Table 1 it is very likely that Blaeu worked entirely from Gordon's *Cathenesia*. How well Blaeu has copied other features in *Cathenesia*, like rivers and hills, can be judged by comparing images of the two maps, suitably scaled and rotated, as in the section below from *Helmsdale* to *Fors* (Blaeu names of settlements, rivers in white).



Caithness maps "georeferenced": Blaeu (names in white) compared to Gordon (1600 x 1000 pixels).

Dr Jeffrey Stone responds: *I am happy to accept new evidence of Blaeu working directly from Pont manuscript sources for Renfroana, Sterlinensis, Glottiana Inferior and Superior and I would be inclined to add Levinia to that group, on the basis of its position in the atlas. This reduction in the role of Gordon in preparing drafts for Blaeu has a logical consequence in that his large scale drafts are now confined to his home area of Aberdeenshire, Banff and Moray. The outstanding gaps in Blaeu's coverage are met by his two small scale drafts covering the Highlands and the north of Scotland.*

I remain unconvinced that Blaeu was working from a draft of Cathenesia prepared by Gordon. Blaeu did not ask for cover of this area which suggests that he had it already, and the engraving is credited to Pont. It is unlikely that Blaeu was working from Gordon 9 or a copy of it. There are eight place-names and a descriptive phrase on Cathenesia which are not on Gordon 9, plus a further five discrepancies, suggesting that the engraving does not derive from Gordon's manuscript. Both maps probably derive from a common Pont source now lost, not the only Pont manuscript known to Gordon but no longer extant. Gordon 9 appears to be another example of Gordon in pursuit of his own agenda.

Bob Henery writes back: Jeffrey Stone makes a case that Gordon and Blaeu made independent copies of Pont's original, and I stand corrected. But we need to show that the Gordon map exhibits features not in Blaeu (and not just the other side of the argument – that there are eight additional names in Blaeu), otherwise we leave open the possibility that Gordon copied from Blaeu. Fortunately this evidence is clear from the Caithness image (above), at the top right of which the reader will see two rivers crossing (according to Blaeu) or a range of hills (Gordon). Pont often uses a wavy line to depict a range of hills, and a wavy line is often wrongly interpreted as a river. When two wavy lines cross however, they cannot both be rivers, so in this case Blaeu has got it wrong, and for once Gordon has it right.

Strangely enough, the roles are reversed in Gordon 54 (North Fife), where Gordon knows that "*There is no river betwixt shelles and falkland*", and, I might add, there is no river between *Scottis taruett* and *Pitskotty*. Blaeu's *Fifae Orientalis* engraving has the correct interpretation for both. It looks as if there are two Robert Gordons: one does not know the meaning of the wavy lines (*North Fife*); and another does (*Caithness*).

1. Stone, Jeffrey, 'Timothy Pont: Three Centuries of Research, Speculation and Plagiarism', in *The Nation Survey'd, Timothy Pont's Maps of Scotland*, ed. I.C. Cunningham, 2001, 16.

The Location That Wasn't: The Story of Bartholomew and Grange Loan

It is fair to say that the cartographic printing and publishing house of Bartholomew fairly hopped around their Edinburgh home, notching up no less than five addresses in less than 90 years.

As a firm, John Bartholomew began its life in the family home at 4 East St James Street. It took its first commercial premises in 1859, located at 4 North Bridge and shared with the publisher A. & C. Black. This was a split site, with the engraving office on North Bridge and the printing works a few doors down in Spottiswood House. In 1870 the firm moved on, taking up residence at 17 Brown Square (latterly Chambers Street); it was to be a relatively short tenure. In 1888 John Bartholomew and Thomas Nelson entered into a partnership, creating the firm of John Bartholomew & Co., with John George Bartholomew at the helm. Thomas Nelson built new premises at Park Road and John Bartholomew & Co. paid the cost back in rent. What began with optimism swiftly turned sour however, and the partnership began to fail. In his private ledger John George wrote about the impossibility of working with 'so much unpleasant friction & jealousy'. Consequently, in 1892, following the death of Thomas Nelson, the partnership ceased, although because of the constraints of a long-term lease, the firm was tied to Park Road until 1909.



As 1909 approached the search for a new home began. The sense of excitement at this time is almost palpable. At last, the firm, and John George in particular could draw a line under the previous 20 years of unhappiness. Perhaps buoyed by this excitement the new premises would not only be home to John Bartholomew & Co. (the Co. by this time reflecting the partnership with John George's cousin, Andrew Scott) but also to John George's newly conceived of and self-styled, Edinburgh Geographical Institute; the eventual site was Duncan Street.

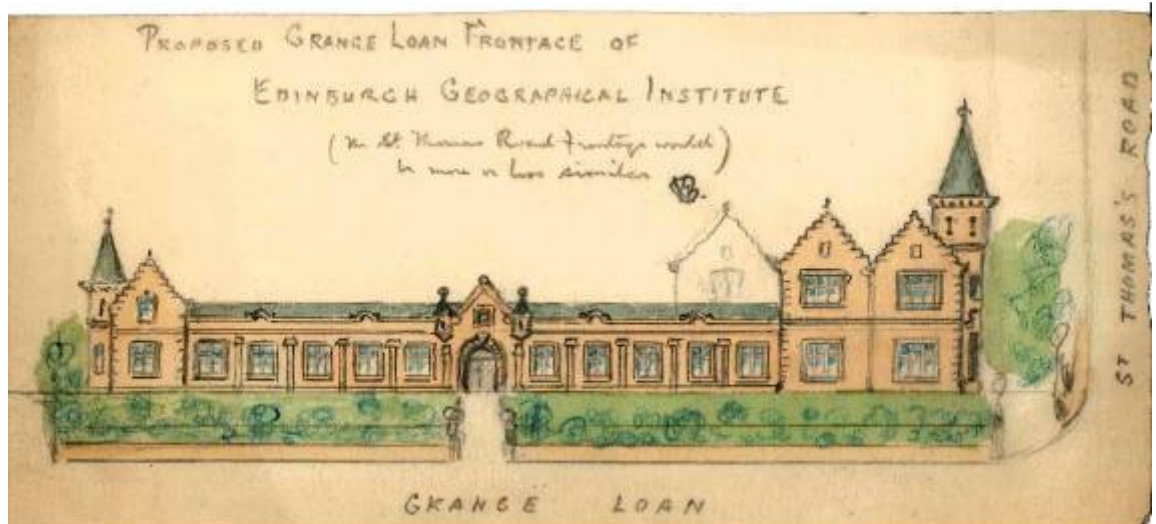
Duncan Street became synonymous with Bartholomew. They occupied the building from 1911 to 1995, by far and away the longest tenure of any Bartholomew premises. John George invested much of himself into the building, a physical embodiment of his dreams and ambitions. A sketch by John George (above), found in the Bartholomew Archive, shows a familiar Edinburgh Geographical Institute superimposed over the Park Road premises, which somehow fails to inspire after such brutal comparison. The Palladian portico, such a key feature of Duncan Street, was in fact transported from Falcon Hall prior to this building's demolition. Falcon Hall was the Bartholomew family home and it is possible that personal touches such as these helped to create the sense of family which former employees almost universally describe.

2011 marks the centenary of the Duncan Street building, and as such it is perhaps timely that intriguing new information has come to light from the Bartholomew Archive; Duncan Street should have been Grange Loan. As early as February 1908, John George Bartholomew had submitted plans and was negotiating over a site on the corner of Grange Loan and St Thomas's Road, in the Grange area of Edinburgh. A rough sketch by John

Top and left.

Sketches by John George Bartholomew of the proposed new alternative buildings for the firm - see text for details

*(Acc.10222/
Business
Record/252)*





Newspaper cutting from 1908 - Acc.10222/Business Record/260.

George (opposite, lower left) shows us what this premises would have looked like. What is immediately apparent is that it is not dissimilar to Park Road and is certainly a far cry from the Edinburgh Geographical Institute that was eventually built. Quite what inspired such a sea-change may never be known, but perhaps the frustration John George felt at missing out on his first choice of site inspired a complete and radical break from what might have felt like the curse of Park Road. By December 1908, after almost a year of hard work, planning, negotiating and hoping, John George finally got word of the refusal of the Grange Loan site. We

can only imagine his disappointment, but however keenly it was felt, it was swiftly overcome. By March 1909, Duncan Street had been bought, and the rest, as they say, is history.

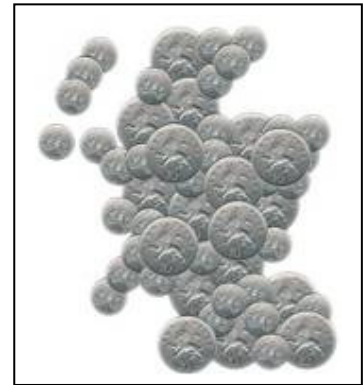
Karla Baker Bartholomew Archive Curator

New maps website e-payments system

In April we launched a new maps website e-payments system allowing anyone to purchase printouts and images of all 24,000 of our online maps. The system is quick and simple, and it has been integrated with the existing *Maps of Scotland* website (<http://maps.nls.uk>). Just browse to the map you want to purchase, and select the

Order this map

button. Prompts and helpful notes guide you through the payment process using a credit/debit card or PayPal. Registered customers can also track the progress of their orders, view previous orders, and contact / address information is saved for easier repeat orders. Bespoke orders or other queries for copies of items not on our website can still be sent as before to maps@nls.uk.



Recent papers and articles

Scottish Geographical Journal VOL.127(2) 2011

This **Special Issue** of the *Scottish Geographical Journal* brings together papers presented at the Scottish Maps Forum's *Mapping and Antiquities in Scotland* seminar held in November 2009.

Guest Editors: David Breeze, Chris Fleet, and Jack Stevenson

- Chris Fleet, *Guest Editorial: Mapping and Antiquities in Scotland*
- David J. Breeze, *The Antonine Wall – The Making of a World Heritage Site*, 87-93
- Lawrence Keppie, *Early Mapping of the Antonine Wall*, 94-107
- Matthew Shelley, *Timothy Pont and the Freshwater Loch Settlements of Late Medieval and Early Modern Mainland Scotland*, 108-116
- Yolande Hodson, *The Lucubrations of his Leisure Hours: William Roy's Military*

Antiquities of the Romans in Britain 1793, 117-132

- John Poulter, *The Use of Maps to Help Diagnose the Processes by Which the Romans May Have Planned Their Roads and Walls in Northern Britain, with Particular Reference to the Antonine Wall in Scotland*, 133-146
- Rebecca H. Jones & Peter McKeague, *Mapping the Antonine Wall*, 147-163

This Special Issue of the SGJ is available at a reduced price of £15 by contacting the NLS for an order form - contact details on front cover or e-mail maps@nls.uk

John di Folco, 'The mysterious Mr John Geddy' *History Scotland* 11(4) (July/August 2011), 47-49

Stuart Nisbet, 'Unfolding fermtowns: rural buildings on Roy's military survey' *Scottish Local History* 76 (2009), 6-10

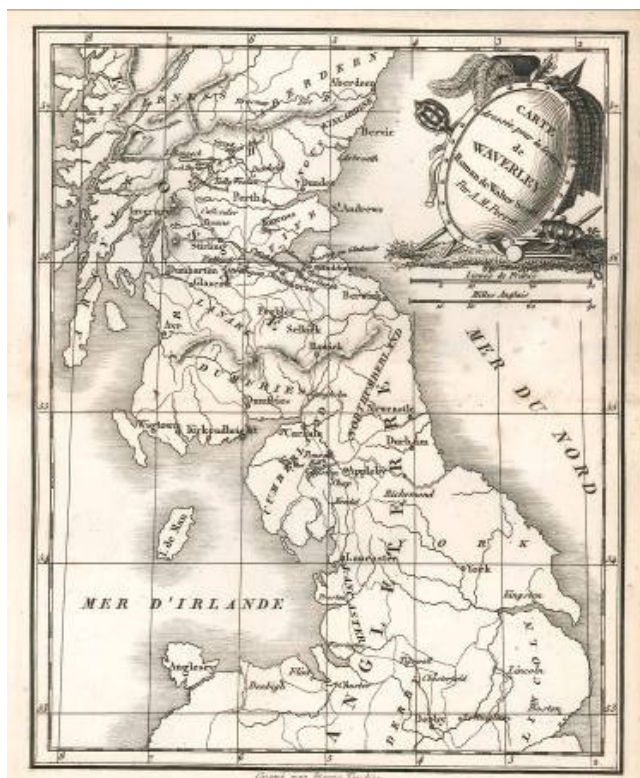
Recent Acquisitions

This small atlas contains a set of maps drawn by Aristide Michel Perrot and engraved by Pierre Tardieu, to be published by Charles Gosselin and A. Sautelet in a proposed complete set of the works of Sir Walter Scott.

Gosselin was Scott's publisher in Paris. He produced several sets of Scott's works in different sizes and formats, usually available in parts and produced over a few years. This particular set included illustrations and a map to accompany each individual novel, often depicting the route of the main protagonist's adventures. Little is recorded about the atlas, with only a few examples extant.

Tardieu is known for the quality of his work, and these maps are very finely engraved. Perrot is probably best known here for his small, highly decorated, county maps. His artistry is evident in the interesting title cartouches, usually illustrated with some objects from the story.

Reference: Burden, Eugene. A set of literary maps. *IMCOS Journal* 76 Spring 1999 pp.23-25.



Carte dressée pour la lecture de Waverley, Roman de Walter Scott / Par A.M. Perrot, from [Cartes géographiques pour les oeuvres de Sir Walter Scott]. [Paris: C. Gosselin & A. Sautelet, 1828]. 1 atlas : 28 maps, 16 x 21 cm.



Detail from: *Beschrijvinghe vande Noortcosten van Engelant ende Scotlant, ende ghelegentheit van dien, mitsgaders de monden vande rivieren, ende havenen, ende waer voren, men hem moet wachten = Description des costes Septentrionales d'Angleterre et Escosse, la situation d'icelles, ensemble les entrees et issnes des ports et rivieres; et ce qu'on y doit eviter.* [Leyden : ghedruckt by Francois van Raphelengien voor Lucas lansz. Waghenaer, 1592]
1 chart : hand col. : 55 x 19 cm.

The charts of Lucas Janszoon Waghenaer will be familiar to anyone interested in the early mapping of Scotland, being deeply influential and much copied. The charts were clearly engraved and pleasingly decorated with ships and large fish. The latest addition to the Collection is no exception, with a large compass rose and decorative cartouches for both the Dutch and French titles. The most striking feature is the orientation with west to the top. It depicts the east coast of northern England and Scotland, from Robin Hood's Bay to Orkney. This particular example is unusually coloured in amber and brown tones.

The chart is from the rare *Thresoor der Zeevaert*, a sea-atlas produced in Leyden by Waghenaer in 1592. The sales of the larger, attractive *Spieghel der Zeevaert* had been very good, but Waghenaer wanted to produce a more practical volume of charts specifically to be used at by his fellow pilots. He incorporated amendments and updates from the *Spieghel* into his new charts rather than re-engage his existing plates. Fewer copies of the *Thresoor* were made, with no Latin edition being issued, and even fewer have survived their usage at sea, making it an uncommon find.

Reference: Koeman, Dr. I.C. "*Atlantes Neerlandici*". Vol. 4 pp. 502-503. (Amsterdam : Theatrum Orbis Terrarum Ltd., 1970

Paula Williams, Map Curator