

CAIRT

Issue 24
Jan 2014

Newsletter of the Scottish Maps Forum

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SCOTTISH MAPS FORUM

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

- ♦ *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:

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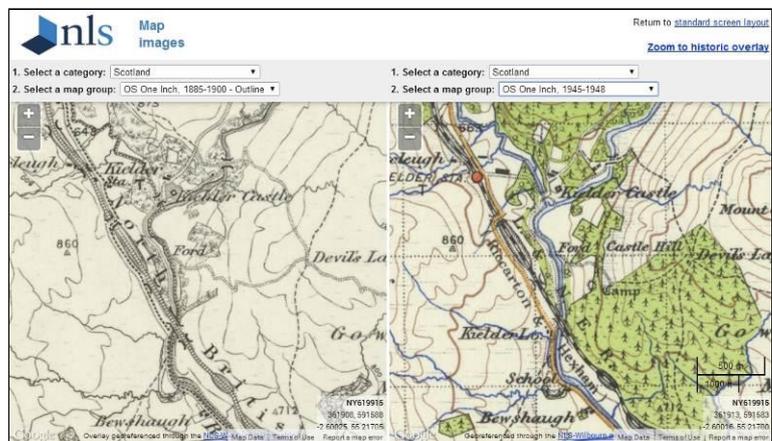
Welcome to the first edition of *Cairt* in colour! We hope you will like the new colour images - helped by reduced colour-printing costs - which we think look better on white paper. Apart from that, there are no changes to content, with the aim still being to publicise news and updates about the ever-growing number of online resources, projects, publications, and events connected to historical maps of Scotland and beyond...

New map website resources

Over the last six months we have been active on a number of fronts:

- To improve the speed of our zoomable maps, in July we moved to a **new image viewer** for all map images, and also standardised all map image viewer URLs to a common format: [http://maps.nls.uk/view/\[image ID\]](http://maps.nls.uk/view/[image ID]) - to simplify links to our images.
- In November we added a new **Side-by-side** viewer for georeferenced maps. This allows an easy way of comparing different layers of historical georeferenced mapping on screen at the same time. We now have over 160 layers of georeferenced mapping in our *Explore Georeferenced Maps* viewer, and it is often useful and interesting to compare different scales and dates of this mapping on screen at the same time.

<http://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/sidebyside.cfm>



Our new Side-by-side viewer, illustrating afforestation around Kielder Castle at the one-inch scale from the 1920s (left) and the 1940s (right)

Continued on page 2

New map website resources (contd.)

- **Mapping History** is a new collaborative website with Archaeology Scotland for secondary schools on using and interpreting maps for historical and archaeological projects. The website includes an introductory video, guides for reading maps and identifying symbols, tools for map regression, interactive games, urban and rural case studies, activity sheets, and downloads.

<http://digital.nls.uk/mapping-history/>

- **OS sheet records viewer** In September we added 152,332 records for OS County Maps of England and Wales (1841-1952) to our former *National Grid viewer*, renaming it as the *OS sheet records viewer*.

These new records are for the OS 25 inch (1:2,500) and OS six-inch to the mile (1:10,560) series of England and Wales, complementing the coverage of Scotland already included. This viewer now provides a single interface showing sheet boundaries and references to all the 1:10,000 and larger scale OS paper maps that were published in the United Kingdom. This includes dates of all the editions of County Series map sheets at these scales (and dates of all post-War National Grid paper map sheets for Scotland). We are very grateful to EDINA for funding this work.

<http://maps.nls.uk/geo/records/>



New Online Maps

Our map digitisation work is dependent on external funding, and we are very grateful to David Rumsey for supporting the digitisation and georeferencing of:



OS One-inch 2nd edition, Scotland (Hills edition) (1885-1903) - this one-inch to the mile series complements the Outline edition already available online, but in contrast, shows relief as brown hachures - lines following the direction of the slope, with their thickness indicating steepness. During the 19th century, this was Ordnance Survey's preferred method of indicating the height of the ground, printing the Hills edition maps from two separate copper plates. However, it was very labour intensive, and increasingly OS moved to use contours to represent height in the 20th century.

<http://maps.nls.uk/os/one-inch-2nd-hills/index.html>



OS Five feet to the mile - London (1893-1896) - the most detailed mapping of London by Ordnance Survey from just over a century ago. The five feet to the mile or 1:1,056 scale covered the capital in 729 sheets, based on a revision and survey of 1891-5. The maps provide excellent detail of the whole urban infrastructure, including residential and industrial premises, schools, asylums, hospitals, parks, canals, docks and railways, and even the interior layout of public buildings, such as cathedrals, churches, and railway stations.

<http://maps.nls.uk/os/london-1890s/index.html>



OS One-inch Revised New Series, England and Wales (1892-1908) - covered all of England and Wales in 346 sheets, forming a clear and attractive general overview of the landscape from a century ago, based on a national revision of 1893-8. We have included the Outline edition (with relief shown by contour lines), as well as the Hills edition (with relief shown by brown hachures).

<http://maps.nls.uk/os/one-inch-rev-new-series/index.html>

Please take a look at our *Recent Additions* page at <http://maps.nls.uk/additions.html> for further information, and to keep up to date with new online map resources as soon as they go live.

New Legal Deposit Library Modern Map Viewer

We are pleased to announce a new LDL Modern Map Viewer from January 2014, which provides continued access to detailed modern mapping of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland. The Viewer is accessible from within NLS reading rooms, allowing easy, instant access via a web-mapping portal to 1:10,000 and larger-scale maps of the United Kingdom for each year from 1998 to 2013, and similar large-scale maps of Northern Ireland from 2005 to 2013. The digital deposits build upon the Libraries' extensive collections of OS mapping on paper and microfilm dating back over two centuries.

In addition to holding OS mapping, the system will offer increased flexibility and scalability to accommodate the addition of new datasets acquired under the Legal Deposit Libraries (Non-Print Works) Regulations 2013.



These Regulations allow other modern cartographic datasets to be added to the system, and will be held and archived securely, with strictly controlled viewing conditions. The new Viewer uses open-source technologies allowing a very cost-effective system, shared with the other United Kingdom Legal Deposit Libraries, and has been customised by thinkWhere, based in Stirling.

Screengrab of the Modern Map Viewer showing OS mapping, by permission of Ordnance Survey

OS Name Books for Scotland all online on ScotlandsPlaces

As reported in previous *Cairts*, following an active digitisation programme over the last two years, scanning was completed in December and the OS Name Books are now all available as a *ScotlandsPlaces* subscription resource. The Name Book entries link through to the OS six-inch maps, and from the OS six-inch maps to the Name Book entries:

<http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/digital-volumes/ordnance-survey-name-books>

There is also a free exhibition - *From Ae to Zetland* - running from 6 December to 31 January at National Records of Scotland to mark the completion of the digitisation of these records.

A related project began in the summer to crowdsource the written content of the Name Book entries, as part of a wider volunteer-led transcription project of other *ScotlandsPlaces* textual resources:

<http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/transcribe>

New quarterly reader workshop - NLS Map Images website and digital mapping

This year we are starting a new quarterly reader workshop for those interested in making best use of the NLS *Map Images* website, as well as related modern digital map resources. The workshop will take place in our IT training suite at Causewayside Building, allowing everyone direct access to their own PC with hands-on assistance from experienced digital map staff. This new workshop will complement the existing *Introduction to maps at NLS* and *Maps for family and local history* workshops.

The first workshop will be at 2pm on Tuesday 18 March. Book your free place on this and future workshops at: <http://www.nls.uk/events/readers-workshops>

MESH - Mapping Edinburgh's Social History

This 3-year AHRC-funded project led by Richard Rodger, Professor of Economic and Social History in Edinburgh University, formally began in September and aims to create:

- A new Atlas of Edinburgh 1000-2000 AD
- An online Atlas of Edinburgh based on new, revealing thematic maps
- An open digital data resource for historians and the general public
- Accessible, free online tools to allow anyone to create historical maps

The Atlas will use themes – living and dying; making and selling; building and owning; belief and belonging; imagining – to explain how, over a thousand year period, they make the people and the place we call Edinburgh.

The project team are keen to hear from contributors who have lists of data in whatever form to work with the one of the co-editors – Dr Pat Dennison, Professors Lynch, Withers, Morris and Rodger – to develop these maps.

Please contact mesh@ed.ac.uk to discuss your involvement in the project.

<http://www.mesh.ed.ac.uk>



Dumfries Archival Mapping Project (DAMP)

The former Nithsdale Archival Mapping Project, reported on in the last issue of *Cairt*, has expanded and rebranded themselves as DAMP! The group aims to digitise pre-Ordnance Survey maps and estate plans of Nithsdale and Dumfriesshire, and place them in the public domain for educational, cultural and general interest purposes. Following a successful AGM in October, three Working Groups have been established, and active preparations are being made for funding bids in 2015. The Project team welcome new members and support, and there is an active blog and further information on their new website at:

<http://www.damproject.org/>

Maps and Mappery in Scottish History, 1100 - 1850



*Detail of Fish Market Close (22), from James Gordon of Rothiemay, 1647
Edinodunensis Tabulam.
NLS shelfmark: EMS.s.52*

Maps and Mappery in Scottish History continues to be a popular course, and for those who tried to join last year, but found the class fully subscribed, another opportunity will be available for the Spring session of 2014. For anyone who enjoys studying maps and who has a passion for history, this is the perfect course to indulge your interests while developing research skills. A deeper appreciation of maps as an historical source will be cultivated while exploring the rich collections of the National Library of Scotland's Map Library. Maps as both objects and documents will be set in the context of Scotland's history, giving greater awareness of how maps enrich our understanding of Scotland's past.

The course is organised in three sections: a general background of pre-modern maps; a series of seven case studies, looking at medieval maps, renaissance maps, the rise of geography, town plans, sea charts, military maps and the Ordnance Survey; and finally a look at how maps are being used in historical research today. Each topic will be covered through an informal lecture followed by a workshop, giving hands-on experience in using cartographic evidence in historical research. The class is intended to complement the range of skills-building history classes offered in the University of Edinburgh's Open Studies programme.

Further details can be found on the website:

<https://www.course-bookings.lifelong.ed.ac.uk/courses/H/history/C2490/maps-and-mappery-in-scottish-history-1100-1850/>

Email: openstudies@ed.ac.uk

Tel: 0131 650 4400

Aaron Allen

Professor Charles McKean (1946-2013) and *Project Pont* - a tribute

In 1995, on a quiet day in the former NLS Map Library Reading Room in the Causewayside Building, a curator was dealing with a user researching what he termed 'chateaux' in Upper Clydesdale. The user sought help from maps, but those shown to him by the curator - a wide range of early maps - did not supply him with the answers he sought.

The officer in charge happened to walk across the Reading Room at that point, recognised the user and stepped aside to greet him. There was an immediate plea for help, accompanied by a harangue on Sir James Hamilton of Finnart and Craignethan Castle – the subjects of the research - and a request for any possible leads to contemporary sources which might contain drawings or images of buildings in the Upper Clydesdale landscape.

The officer listened quietly then asked the curator to fetch out 'Pont 34'. The curator naturally assumed this meant a photographic copy of the unique manuscript map of Clydesdale by the Scottish mapmaker, Timothy Pont (ca 1565-1614) which was held in NLS, and pulled out a folder of such photographs. The officer then made it clear it was the original manuscript map she wanted brought out. This was a very rare occurrence but the curator, looking a bit taken aback, complied. When he returned with it, the lights were duly dimmed and the manuscript placed on the map table and covered with protective film.

There was an immediate then sustained explosion of excitement from the user. He could not believe his eyes when he saw the tiny drawings of castles and buildings on this map, nor understand why he'd never known of Timothy Pont and the unique maps he'd produced. There followed further bursts of delight when his eye was caught by further tiny sketches of fortified buildings in Clydesdale he hadn't known existed. He got more and more animated, wildly conjecturing on what he could see under the magnifying glass he was dangerously wielding, stressing something must be done to make these maps better known.

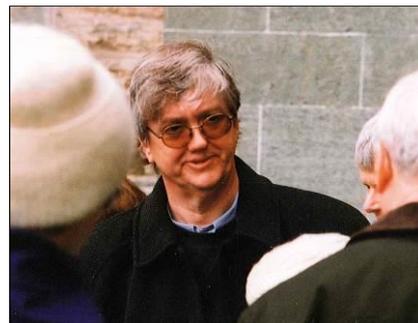
There followed an immediate request for photocopies, which he wanted to enlarge himself to compare with other much later drawings of some of the buildings. Another staff member was pulled out to take part in the excitement and made it known to the user that 1996 would mark the 400th anniversary of Pont's Clydesdale map and it had been hoped to mark this appropriately with an exhibition on Timothy Pont, but these plans had unfortunately been overtaken by other issues within the Library.

After the user had departed, the senior officer – after further discussion with her co-officer - sat down and wrote a memo to the then Librarian, asking approval for the setting up of an initial Seminar to highlight Pont and his maps in readiness for the 400th anniversary. Permission was given to go ahead and the Seminar was linked to the first experiments to scan the Pont Manuscripts by NLS's Preservation Dept, with much input from another of the Map Library curators, including both necessary editorial work on the scans, and analysis of the inks and handwritings on the maps. Five-year *Project Pont* was born.

Charles McKean, for he was that enthusiastic user, not only gave a paper at that first Seminar, but became one of the original members of the 'Project Pont' Steering Committee. Though other academics on this Committee, from different institutions and disciplines, may have disagreed with some of Charles's conjectures from the map evidence, there was never any doubt about his enthusiastic support and help. His use of the map evidence in his many public talks which followed, helped lead to a far wider knowledge and appreciation of Pont and his maps in the Scottish community and furth of the realm.

Project Pont might never have happened had Charles not visited the Map Room that day hunting for his Clydesdale chateaux. We owe him much for his visit and for his continuing enthusiastic support. This will not be forgotten.

Margaret Wilkes



Charles McKean on the Project Pont field trip to Castle Menzies, Perthshire, 1998



William Atkinson of Whitehaven (d.1709)

An exciting recent discovery has been made relating to this hydrographic surveyor of the Scottish west coast in the late 17th century, through research at Cumbria Record Office¹, but any further information would be greatly appreciated. The background to William Atkinson of Whitehaven is best explained through Greenville Collins' *Great Britain's Coasting Pilot*, brought out in 1693, of which at least twenty-five examples survive. Within them sit fifty-two different chart plates, for each book's selection and number of charts differ from one another. Four books contain only forty-six charts, one contains fifty-one, but none contain all. Rarest are three small-scale charts not by Collins: *The natural shape of England with the names of the rivers sea-ports Sands Hills Moors Forrests*, *A new Mapp of England Scotland and Ireland* from which we reproduce detail 1, and *This mapp of the Sea Coast of Europe and the Straits* from which we reproduce detail 2. The pilot charts Scotland's east coast at all three scales: small, medium, and large; yet for the west, it only provides small scale chartings. Therefore, without detailed charts and sailing directions for the coast of western Scotland, the pilot's title is out of kilter with its content.

One reason is that the book is the outcome of Collins' massive survey, and that its governmental support withered in the tumult of 1688. By then, his progressively northward cover of Britain's west coast had reached Whitehaven. That expiry prompted consideration of publishing the results of the large geographic area that he had then covered. However, Collins intended to augment his own production with several charts made by William Atkinson of Whitehaven, a Quaker who had been Sir John Lowther's estate steward in the early 1680s; this is according to Lowther's later steward. Atkinson had successfully charted the entire coast not covered by Collins: all that area from the Solway to the Orkneys including the Western Isles. Being careful of who he showed his manuscript charts to, Atkinson guarded them rather jealously. Clearly Collins, gifted with charge of a royal yacht for his survey, was someone worthy. Like other mariners, Collins immediately recognised the quality of Atkinson's work. Adding them to the pilot would have at least completed the detailed charting of Britain for his book, even if his way-guide to the kingdom's whole coast remained wanting. Unfortunately, Atkinson did not have the courage to release his work for Collins' usage.

In 1690, Collins provided William III with further charts of four Irish ports. Throughout the next three years Collins commanded the King's yacht, where his gain of William's full patronage finally lead to the pilot's publication; and wherein Collins expressed his regret at the Scottish lacuna. After abolition of the Licensing Act, Atkinson enquired through Lowther about getting his charts published in London. Atkinson cited Collins' pilot as a publication model for his own work. Atkinson intended fitting his charts on to ten plates, but there is no sign that he ever did get round to their publication. Can anyone identify any of William Atkinson's manuscript charting of Scotland's western coasts?

Reference

Carlisle, Cumbria Record Office, D LONS/W Correspondence, Box 8-9; D LONS/W1/46.



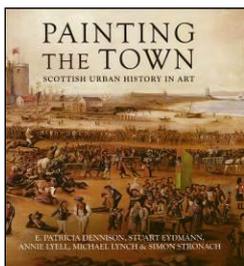
Above: Detail 1 from *A new Mapp of England Scotland and Ireland* PL 2988.

Below: Detail 2 from *This mapp of the Sea Coast of Europe and the Straits* PL 2988.

Both maps reproduced by courtesy of Pepys Library, Cambridge

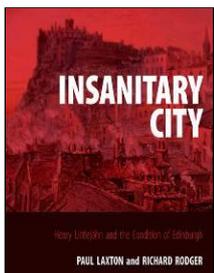


New Publications



E. Patricia Dennison, Stuart Eydmann, Annie Lyell, Michael Lynch & Simon Stronach, *Painting the Town: Scottish Urban History in Art* (Edinburgh: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, 2013). 512 pp., £25

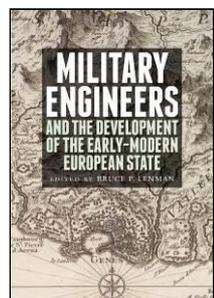
This attractive and scholarly volume presents a stunning visual record of contemporary images of Scotland's towns and townspeople before photography. It gathers together over 200 paintings, engravings, sketches, bird's-eye views and maps, many never seen before, to provide detailed historical insights into 80 towns in Scotland. Arranged as an alphabetical gazetteer of towns with an introductory essay, the authors bring together very thoroughly researched information and expert commentary on each image, offering a unique insight into the changing lifestyle and townscapes of Scotland. Taken together, these images capture Scotland's towns in the course of change - under attack, under military occupation, subjected to 'Improvement' and then to industrialisation - all in the space of a few generations, in which Scotland was transformed from a largely rural society into one of the most urbanised countries in Europe.



Paul Laxton and Richard Rodger, *Insanitary City: Henry Littlejohn and the Condition of Edinburgh*. (Lancaster: Carnegie, available February 2014). 480 pp., £24.99

Dr Henry Littlejohn's *Report on the Sanitary Condition of Edinburgh* (1865) was a landmark in urban management and public health administration, with a significance far beyond the boundaries of Edinburgh. Littlejohn's meticulous research produced penetrating insights into the links between poverty, employment and public health in Victorian cities. This important book reproduces the complete, original Report, but also elucidates its role in the development of public health management, as well as examining the vested interests he challenged. The book includes 23 maps, most in full colour, and nearly half of these are entirely new maps illustrating aspects of the public health of Edinburgh in the mid-19th century.

The authors will also be speaking on the book in George IV Bridge on 13 February - book a place at: <http://www.nls.uk/events>



Bruce Lenman, ed., *Military Engineers and the development of the early-modern European state*. (Dundee: Dundee University Press, 2013). £30.

For Scotland, see especially Dr Carolyn Anderson's essay, 'Cartography and conflict: the Board of Ordnance and the construction of the military landscape of Scotland', pp. 131-152.

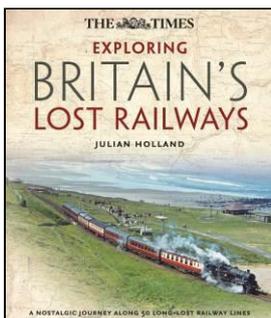
This volume was inspired by the Scottish Maps Forum's 'Muskets and Mapping' seminar from 2006, and brings together a collection of scholarly and original essays on the role of early-modern European military engineers in the construction and empowerment of sovereign authority. Military engineers were natural polymaths, often from an artistic background, and always with some mathematical training, capable of turning their hands to an astonishing range of activities. These included cartography, town and port planning, architecture, drainage and water supply, and road and canal building, not to mention archaeology, fireworks, fountains and fine art. Here an international team of scholars look at these ubiquitous talents at work in peace and war from Russia and Turkey through western Europe to America and India, and asks what they tell us about states and identities in a world so different from our own.

Mapping the Nation: Representations of Scotland, 1200-2000: A conference for teachers of history and literature, Saturday 15 March 2014

This forthcoming, one-day conference at the National Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street on Saturday 15 March is intended for teachers of history and literature in Scottish secondary schools. It will explore the multiple ways in which Scotland has been visualized and represented from medieval times through the days of Empire to the present day through cartography, history, and literature, and how these representations have helped to shape a sense of Scottish nationhood. This knowledge exchange event will bring together teachers of Scottish studies within secondary education, with academic researchers, and the curators of the museums and libraries holding Scotland's manuscripts, books and maps. The objective is to widen awareness of the resources that are available online (and in museums and archives) for teachers, and through them learners, to explore Scotland's past, with particular reference to the extended Scottish history and literature components within the 'Curriculum for Excellence' in Scotland. The event is funded by the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and further information and booking details will be posted on the *Mapping the Nation* blog site <http://mappingthenation.wordpress.com/> during January.

Anna Groundwater

Cairt Competition - two copies of *Exploring Britain's Lost Railways* to be won



We have recently collaborated with The Times publishers to source historical maps for inclusion in Julian Holland's *Exploring Britain's Lost Railways*. (London: Times Books, 2013). This book gives the historical background to over 50 lost railway lines, many closed following the Beeching Reports of 1963-5, along with descriptions of the routes today for walking and cycling. Each route is highlighted on historical Ordnance Survey mapping, showing which parts can still be followed today. The carefully researched text is accompanied by historical photographs showing each line in operation prior to its closure, as well as specially commissioned images from the present day.

To win a copy, please tell us the **sheet number** of the extract from the OS one-inch to the mile map (Hills edition) shown on the top left of the front cover of this newsletter. It features a lost railway line in the north-east of Scotland...

Please send or e-mail your answers, marked *Cairt Competition*, to maps@nls.uk or to the address on the front cover by 30 March 2014. The winners will be picked randomly from the winning entries and informed by 15 April 2014.

Congratulations to Andrew Armstrong for winning a Birlinn facsimile copy of John Thomson's Atlas of Scotland (1832) from the last issue's competition.

Julian Holland will be speaking in NLS on Thursday 5 June on *Exploring Scotland's Lost Railways* - bookings will open in April at: <http://www.nls.uk/events>

The Ghost of Maps Past - what the Dickens was Waghenauer up to?

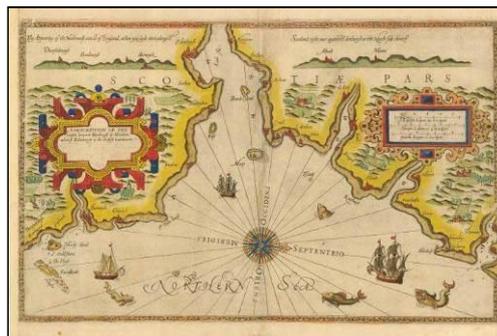
My latest cartographic assumption has gone the proverbial way of all assumptions¹. Waghenauer's "waggoner" contains a lovely chart of the coasts of South-East Scotland², centred on the Forth, with West (almost) at the top, first published in 1584, with plates engraved in Dutch by the van Deutecom brothers, and republished in 1586 with added Latin legends and Latin names in the seas³.

My own copy (Fig. 1) is from the English edition of 1588 entitled *The Mariners Mirrour*⁴, and is so close a copy of the foregoing Dutch/Latin map that it has hung on my wall, to my shame, since 2005, with the assumption that the ghost writing in the cartouche was a residue of the original Dutch text, imperfectly erased. However, I recently learned from the note by Koeman preceding his contents list for this entry that new plates were engraved by de Bry, Hondius, Ryther and others for this edition! (There are differences in size, scale, the engraved frame, and some differences in engraved names which confirm this.)

So why is the ghost writing on a new plate not described (Fig. 2)? The residue of the text is very faint, and little can be discerned: it appears to be on two to four lines, the first beginning with T (perhaps Theodore de Bry, as inscribed on many plates in part 1, or perhaps The), the second or third with H (perhaps Hondius, as inscribed on three other plates, perhaps Hatton who commissioned the work, or perhaps Haven or Harbour, as in the title), with possibly a date in the centre below them.

The NLS copy⁵ shows an even fainter hint of ghost-writing than my own - their facsimile copy (1966)⁶ shows none. So is there out there somewhere a proof state of this map with the full wording... ?

Neil Davidson
neild99@hotmail.co.uk



Above (Fig. 1): Author's copy of Waghenauer's 1588 chart of SE Scottish coasts

Below (Fig. 2): The cartouche, digitally enhanced



Notes and References

- 1 A-S-S-U-M-E spoken quickly makes an "ass out of you and me"
- 2 Image available at <http://maps.nls.uk/coasts/chart.cfm?id=170>
- 3 In Leiden in the "Spiegel der Zeevaerdt"; see Koeman, IC (1970) "Atlantes Neerlandici", vol. 4, pp. 465-501 (and specifically entries 27a and 27b on p. 474) for full details
- 4 *Op. cit.* (entry Wag 13, part 2, map 5 on p.500)
- 5 Shelfmark EU.6.M
- 6 Shelfmark Map.Ref.b.C1