

Call for Papers**3rd INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE HISTORY OF CARTOGRAPHY,
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON (UTA)****10 -13 October, 2010****ICA Commission on Maps and Society****Commission chair: Chris Perkins, University of Manchester****Session organizer: Jörn Seemann, Louisiana State University/Universidade Regional do Cariri, Brazil****Rethinking silences and secrecies in the history of cartography**

In 1988, J.B. Harley's inspiring paper on silences, secrecy, and hidden agendas in early modern cartography stimulated a debate on power-knowledge relations in the history of cartography. Harley addressed maps as political discourses through which geographic details had been added or left out, whereas issues such as censorship, intentionality, and strategic interests underlined Harley's argument that maps were "socially constructed perspectives on the world", conceived "as actions rather than as impassive descriptions".

During the last two decades, discussions on authorship, access, and agency in the mapmaking process have gone beyond Harley's original ideas that were based on scholars such as Foucault and Derrida and were limited to chapters of early colonial cartography. Time is ripe for a call to rethink silences and secrecy in the history of cartography within the framework of more recent epistemological debates. What do openness and secrecy constitute in different contexts? How is mapping enrolled into very different conceptions of the public and private according to different social contexts, in different times and places? How are these maps inserted in their respective societies, and how can they be compared to other forms of power-knowledge?

Within the overall theme of the symposium, the session seeks to present theoretically informed papers that explore the hidden agendas of maps as power-knowledge devices in general and/or relate and interpret the cartographic activities of chartered companies in particular.

Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- institutional mapmaking policies;
- censorship, restriction and confidentiality in the mapmaking process;
- the "social life" of particular maps used for economic or political enterprises;
- indigenous knowledge and silences and secrecy in maps;
- mapmaking versus political and economic interests;
- codified maps;
- public reactions to restriction of maps;
- the role of production techniques and technology;
- access to and availability of maps in the history of cartography;
- map production and map use in chartered companies and other economic businesses;
- theoretical frameworks for the study of silences and secrecy in the history of cartography.

Abstracts (no more than 250 words) should be e-mailed in English or French to jseema4@lsu.edu no later than March 08, 2010.

Further details about the conference are available on the site of the ICA Commission on the History of Cartography:

http://www.ichistcarto.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=35&Itemid=37