

# ACMLA Conference Abstracts - GeoTec 2006

Monday June 19

History of Cartography (CCA / ACMLA)

3:30pm to 5:00pm

OCC, Room 3A

Moderator: Betty Kidd, ACMLA

David Thompson's mapping of the international boundary,  
1816-1826

*Frances Pollitt, Maine Historical Society, Portland, ME, USA*

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David Thompson, Canada's most accomplished, famous and beloved of the 19<sup>th</sup> century cartographers, is best known for his work in the far west mapping the international boundary west of Lake of the Woods to the Pacific coast. Recently (2004) I cataloged a collection of his maps held at the Maine Historical Society in Portland, Maine. These maps, his associated correspondence and survey journal cover the mapping of the boundary in the vicinity of the Great Lakes; from the St. Lawrence to Lake of the Woods, and were undertaken under the direction of two British Commissioners for the International Boundary Commission under Articles 6 and 7 of the Treaty of Ghent and are all part of the Thomas Barclay collection of materials related to the boundary commissions in the 18th and 19th century. Of particular interest is the high quality of these surveys and the inclusion of his son, Samuel Barclay, in the creation of their creation. It is my purpose to highlight this segment of David Thompson's life and work by sharing information about these maps, his journal and selected correspondence.

Augustus Jones, Pioneer Land Surveyor

*Alun Hughes, Brock University*

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Augustus Jones, a Loyalist of Welsh-American descent, was arguably Upper Canada's leading surveyor prior to 1800. In the 1780s he played a major role in laying out the original townships in the Niagara Peninsula, and he later undertook numerous surveys of townships, townsites and roads in the Golden Horseshoe (among them York, Lenox and Yonge Street). He also surveyed the boundaries of the Six Nations Tract on the Grand River.

When he wasn't working Jones led a very complex personal life. He was a close friend of native leader Joseph Brant and was married simultaneously to the daughters of two rival Indian chiefs, one Mohawk, the other Mississauga. Then in 1800, at the height of his career, he abruptly stopped surveying, became a farmer and spent his later years on a 6000-acre tract on the Grand River, where he died in 1836. Why the sudden change? This paper reviews Jones's professional and personal lives and suggests an explanation that is part individual choice and part government policy.

## Re-envisioning the Map Display Case: Libraries, Historic Maps and Google Earth

*Larry W. Laliberté, GIS Librarian, University of Manitoba*

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While much has been written about Google Earth in the media, it has been predominantly from two angles. Stories have dealt either with the wow factor of surfing a virtual globe, to more sensationalistic tones, relating to potential security threats related to easy access to high resolution satellite images. Somewhere between these points of view, however, librarians are realizing that they are in a great position to harness the visualizing power of Google Earth, to promote, while providing a portal to, their institution's unique cartographic holdings.

The aim of "Re-envisioning the Map Display Case, Libraries, Cartographic Resources and Google Earth" is to provide a working example of the power of combining GIS data, published first hand accounts, paintings and photos, websites and other media formats such as audio and video within the Google Earth authoring environment, in order to re-visualize a portion of an exceptional 1870 map housed at the University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections, entitled "Map Shewing the Line of Route Between Lake Superior and the Red River Settlement".

## Historical Maps Showing First Nations in the Southern Interior of British Columbia

*Ken Favrholt, Thompson Rivers University*

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Maps showing the territories of First Nations in the interior of British Columbia date back to the early explorers and fur traders. The Shuswap or Secwepemc, as they call themselves today, were mapped by Alexander Mackenzie, David Thompson, Archibald MacDonald, Samuel Black, A. C. Anderson, George M. Dawson, W. F. Tolmie, and James A. Teit, all with different purposes in mind and revealing more detail as more knowledge was accumulated.

These historical maps provide valuable evidence of human occupancy and travel routes that support traditional land use and Aboriginal title. Gradually maps of First Nations became more thematic in scope, such as ethnographic maps, and lately also political in nature, especially in relation to land claims. In recent years, the UBC Museum of Anthropology and Union of BC Indian Chiefs have produced First Nations-vetted maps. Many First Nations, such as the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council, have produced maps of their traditional territories.

Focusing on the Secwepemc and their neighbours, this paper will trace the evolution of the way First Nations in BC's interior have been mapped by others, as well as by themselves, reviewing important maps by various cartographers from the earliest to the latest representations.

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Tuesday June 20

Archiving I (ACMLA)

9:00am to 10:30am

GCC, Sussex Room

Moderator: Anna Jasiak, Research Geographer, Atlas of Canada

### Archiving and Preserving Geospatial Data: Some Challenges

*Fraser Taylor, Distinguished Research Professor in International Affairs, Geography and Environmental Studies, and the Director of the Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre, Carleton University*

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Abstract not available.

### Do Data Access Portals, Repositories, and Catalogues, Preserve or Archive Geospatial and Science Data?

*Tracey Lauriault, PhD Student, Lead Collaboration and Transdisciplinary, Carleton University*

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Geospatial and science data are increasingly being discovered and accessed from, and are often stored in data portals, repositories, catalogues, archives and libraries. The access and dissemination of data in the sciences and in the field of geomatics rely heavily on these types initiatives which may or may not include archiving or preservation as a mandate.

This presentation will therefore discuss the archival and preservation practices, standards, and protocols currently in place in a number of data access and discovery services. Structured information about the service, its host institution, income sources, access fees, metadata standards, statements related to quality, accuracy, or reliability of its data and preservation practices was collected with a brief survey for selected on-line access and discovery services covering a range of geospatial and scientific areas. The research was not intended to be exhaustive but does provide important clues on the structures in place or the lack thereof at these surveyed services.

### Case Study in Building a Preservation Environment for a GIS

*Evelyn Peters McLellan, Corporate Information Analyst, Insurance Corporation of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada*

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Abstract not available.

## Archiving II (ACMLA)

11:00am to 12:30pm

GCC, Sussex Room

Moderator: David Brown, Library and Archives Canada

### Digital Record-keeping Practices of GIS Archaeologists Worldwide: Results of an Online Survey Questionnaire

*Randy Preston, Research Assistant, InterPARES 2 Project, School of Library,  
Archival and Information Studies, The University of British Columbia.*

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Archaeology, as a spatial discipline, is particularly well-suited to the application of GIS technology. In fact, because of its spatial referencing capability, a GIS is much more effective in managing archaeological datasets than Computer Aided Design (CAD) and Computer Aided Mapping (CAM). Consequently, GIS has emerged within the past two decades as the tool of choice among many archaeologists to help analyze complex archaeological data. Its analytical advantages notwithstanding, however, the use of GIS presents researchers with certain significant data and records management challenges.

This presentation focuses on the latter challenge by reporting on the results of a 2004 online survey of GIS record-keeping practices of archaeologists worldwide. The survey, which received responses from archaeologists in 30 countries across 6 continents, was conducted in support of an InterPARES 2 case study, led by Richard Pearce-Moses of the State Archives of Arizona, examining how the records of the GIS system of the Center for Desert Archaeology in Arizona are created, maintained and preserved, and the corresponding impact of these processes on the records' authenticity, accuracy and reliability.

Both the case study and the survey were undertaken to help answer questions about the nature of digital archaeological records, and about how the ever-increasing reliance on GIS is impacting record-keeping practices within the archaeological community.

This presentation elaborates on these themes in light of analysis of the survey data, the final results of which are expected to be issued as a General Study report in early spring.

### The Archiving of the National Air Photo Library

*Karen McEwen, Geomatics Engineer, Centre for Topographic Information,  
Natural Resources Canada*

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The National Air Photo Library (NAPL) holds an extensive collection of aerial photos of Canada dating back to the 1920s. The collection consists of approximately 6 million photos and also includes the related flight report and index map information.

The archival process has recently begun in partnership with Libraries and Archives Canada (LAC) and funding from Management of Government Information (MGI). The process required an assessment of the various NAPL photo collections and related material in order to develop an action plan to scan and process large volumes of

information while following the LAC guidelines to create a new Digital Photo Library (DPL).

As the aerial photo holdings of the library are scanned the information is now currently being made available for viewing through the existing NAPL On-Line internet tool, which is currently available for clients and staff to search and locate desired aerial photography. The upgrade of the current NAPL On-Line internet tool will allow for access to archival search criteria along with the existing search methods for the aerial photo collection and the related report information. The transition to a Digital Photo Library is complex and new ground for the National Air Photo Library.

### Open Archive Information System - LAC Electronic Map Legal Deposit Pilot Project

*Pam Armstrong, Manager, Digital Collection Catalytic Initiative,  
Library and Archives Canada*

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Abstract not available.

### ACMLA Annual General Meeting

12:30pm to 1:30pm  
GCC, Sussex Room

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### Panel Discussion (ACMLA)

1:30pm to 3:00pm  
GCC, Sussex Room

Moderator: David Jones, President ACMLA

### Future of Topographic Mapping in Canada

*NRCan Perspective - Jean Cooper, Director General, Natural Resources Canada  
ACMLA Perspective - Colleen Beard, Map Librarian, Brock University  
CCA Perspective - James Boxal, Director, GIS Centre, Dalhousie University  
Commercial Distributor Perspective - Juliette Atha, Federal Maps Inc.*

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Wednesday June 21

### Information Services (ACMLA)

9:00am to 10:30am  
GCC, Annex Room

Moderator: Colleen Beard, ACMLA

## When a Library Morphs into a Centre: Geographic Information Management Issues

*James Boxall, Director, GIS Centre; Lecturer, Geography, Dalhousie University*

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Map libraries and archives have, traditionally, been focused on timely access to geographic information in a variety of forms. Such access is predicated on sound management practices from selection to archiving. These have become challenges within the digital environment. Because of such change, many libraries have taken on digital library projects, or have developed other means to provide access to digital information.

Map libraries and archives are active members in the areas of teaching about accessing and using geographic information. This presentation does not review all these developments, but looks at one case study where a map library developed into an entity still charged with all the functions of the library (paper and digital) but also with the mandate to expand services into areas not "normally" thought of as library based (course based teaching, research, revenue generation).

The creation of a GIS Centre (when the map collection morphed) altered the notion of information access and management, but it brought to the forefront even larger management issues which may impact other collections, libraries or (soon to be) centres. Just what is the role of a GIS Centre within the university (or a similar large institution)? How has data management changed and why? Are services far beyond the scope of the library? Should they be? Is this change positive and one to emulate, or is it a path best not followed?

This presentation will discuss these issues and more while reviewing the development and direction of the Dalhousie GIS Centre.

## GéoIndex: un nouvel accès aux données géospatiales du Centre d'information géographique et statistique de la Bibliothèque de l'Université Laval

*Stéfano Biondo, Conseiller à la documentation aux données géospatiales et documents cartographiques, Centre d'information géographique et statistique (Centre Géo/Stat), Université Laval*

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Depuis 2002, la Bibliothèque de l'Université Laval acquiert, gère et diffuse un nombre sans cesse grandissant de données géospatiales. Afin d'améliorer et d'automatiser la diffusion de ces données, la bibliothèque a développé à l'aide d'ArcIMS l'interface cartographique web interactive GéoIndex (<http://geoindex.bibl.ulaval.ca/viewer/index.html>).

Cette interface conviviale permet aux membres de la communauté universitaire d'identifier les données géospatiales disponibles à la bibliothèque et de les télécharger. Dans le cadre de ce projet, nous avons également élaboré une application permettant de décompresser, de convertir le format des fichiers et de compresser des fichiers en lot. Ces développements placent la Bibliothèque de l'Université Laval à l'avant-garde au niveau des méthodes de diffusion des données géospatiales au sein des bibliothèques universitaires canadiennes.

Les conférenciers présenteront d'abord un bref historique des méthodes de diffusion des

données géospatiales dans les bibliothèques universitaires et des défis qui en découlent. Ensuite, ils présenteront GéoIndex ainsi que les grandes lignes du développement effectué avec ArcIMS. Finalement, ils discuteront des avantages liés à l'utilisation d'ArcIMS, des améliorations à apporter à GéoIndex et des projets futurs.

## **Towards a Canadian Digital Information Strategy**

*Susan Haigh, Library and Archives Canada*

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Abstract not available.