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Mapping the Republic - Conflicting Concepts of the Territory and Character of the U.S.A., 1790-1900

Osher Map Library and Smith Center for Cartographic Education

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MAPPING THE REPUBLIC

Conflicting Concepts of the Territory and
Character of the U.S.A., 1790-1900


AMERICAN ATLAS

Osher Map Library and Smith Center
for Cartographic Education

May 15, 2003 - January 8, 2004



www.usm.maine.edu/maps/exhibit11

 Osher
Map
Library
Smith Center for
Cartographic Education

UNIVERSITY OF
Southern Maine

Mapping The Republic: Conflicting Concepts of the Territory and Character of the U.S.A., 1790-1900

Maps of the United States of America made by U.S. map makers in the nineteenth century embodied a truly important conflict in how Americans understood and conceptualized the republic. The issue was, which characteristic defined the republic? According to the Declaration of Independence of 1776, the republic was a single union comprising "one People" united in their opposition to British tyranny; this federalist concept would underpin the belief in Manifest Destiny and the republic's Westward expansion. Yet according to the Constitution, which took effect in 1789, the heart of the republic was formed by the sovereignty and autonomy of its constituent states; this localist concept would underpin the issue of "states' rights" and the slaughter of the Civil War (1861-1865).

This exhibition explores the two conflicting concepts and their political ramifications by means of early nineteenth-century wall maps (sections 2-3). It then examines the tension between these spatial conceptions as it played out in a variety of maps and atlases made by both commercial companies and government agencies in the U.S.A.: geographical gazetteers and atlases from the Early Republic; general atlases from 1820-1860; newspaper broadsides covering both civil and external wars; and, the surveying and mapping of the topography and coasts of the U.S.A. by the Federal government (sections 4-7). Of course, the conflict persists to this day: no matter the degree to which Americans understand the U.S.A. to be a single entity, as represented by the weather maps of U.S.A. Today, they still expect Rand McNally and other publishers to organize their road atlases by individual states!

The occasion for this interpretation of U.S. map making was the 20th International Conference on the History of Cartography, organized under the aegis of Imago Mundi, Ltd., by the Osher Map Library, University of Southern Maine, and the Harvard Map Collection, Harvard University.

1) Introduction

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. John Wallis (English, fl. 1780-1800)
The United States of America laid down
From the best Authorities, Agreeable to
the Peace of 1783
Engraving, hand-colored, 46.0cm x 55.0cm
London, 1783
Osher Collection | Engraving, hand-colored, 13" (33cm) diameter
Bradford, VT, 1811
Osher Collection |
| 2. Carl Emil Doepler (German, 1824-1905)
Joseph Hutchins Colton (American, 1800-1893)
[Frontispiece]
Etching transferred to lithograph, 34.0cm x 28.0cm
From: <i>Johnson's New Illustrated (Steel Plate)
Family Atlas</i> (New York: Johnson and
Ward, 1865)
Osher Collection | 4. W. B. Annin (American, d. 1829)
Gilman Joslin (American, 1804-ca.1886)
Joslin's Six Inch Terrestrial Globe,
Containing the Latest Discoveries
Engraving, hand-colored, 6" (15.25cm)
diameter
Boston, 1868
Osher Collection |
| 3. James Wilson (American, 1763-1855)
A New American Terrestrial Globe | 5. W. B. Annin (American, d. 1829)
Gilman Joslin (American, 1804-ca.1886)
Joslin's Six Inch Celestial Globe, From
the best Authorities
Engraving, hand-colored, 6" (15.25cm)
diameter
Boston, 1840
Osher Collection |

Conflicting Representations of the Republic

2) Spaces of Independence: Mapping the Union

- | | |
|--|---|
| 6. Samuel Lewis (American, ca. 1754-1822)
A New and correct Map of The United
States of North America
Engraving, hand-colored,
170.0cm x 187.0cm
Philadelphia: Emmor Kimber, 1816
Osher Collection | 7. John Melish (Scottish/American,
1771-1822)
Map of the United States with the con-
tiguous British & Spanish Possessions
Engraving, hand-colored, sectioned on
linen, 89.0cm x 145.5cm
Philadelphia, 1816
Osher Collection |
|--|---|

8. Phelps & Ensign (American company, fl. 1836-1850)
Phelps & Ensign's Travellers' Guide, and Map of the United States
Engraving transferred to lithograph, hand-colored, 64.0cm x 96.5cm
New York, 1841
Osher Collection

9. Phelps & Watson (American company, fl. 1860-1870)
Phelps & Watson's New Map of the United States
Steel and wood engravings transferred to lithograph, hand-colored, 94.0cm x 91.0cm
New York, 1860
Osher Collection

3) Constitutional Spaces: Mapping States

10. William Bicknell, Jr. (American, ca. 1804-1887)
The Constitution of the United States, with A Summary View of Each State in the Union
Letterpress and wood engravings transferred to lithograph, hand-colored, 76.5cm x 53.0cm
Hartford, ME, [1834]
Osher Collection

11. Osgood Carleton (American, 1742-1816)
Map of the District of Maine Massachusetts
Engraving, sectioned on linen, 135.0cm x 92.5cm
Boston: B. & J. Loring, 1802
Fleet Bank Collection

12. John Brainard Mansfield (American, 1826-1888)
New Map of Maine

Lithograph, sectioned on linen, 111.0cm x 86.0cm
Bangor, ME, 1855
Osher Collection

13. John Chace, Jr. (American, fl. 1854-1860)
Map of Kennebec C^o. Maine
Engraving transferred to lithograph, hand-colored, 142.5cm x 144.5cm
Philadelphia and Augusta, ME, 1856
OML Collections

14. Osgood Carleton (American, 1742-1816)
A Map of those parts of the Country most famous for being harrassed by the Indians
Engraving, 52.0cm x 42.0cm
In: James Sullivan, *The History of the District of Maine* (Boston: I. Thomas and E. T. Andrews, 1795), opp. title page
Osher Collection

The Tension of Spatial Representation

4) Early Republic Gazetteers and Atlases

15. Jedidiah Morse (American, 1761-1826)
A Map of the United States of America
Engraving, 14.0cm x 14.5cm
In: Jedidiah Morse, *Elements of Geography* (Boston: I. Thomas and E. T. Andrews, 1798), opp. 74
Osher Collection

16. Jedidiah Morse (American, 1761-1826)
Map of North America Shewing all the New Discoveries
Engraving, 19.5cm x 22.5cm
In: Jedidiah Morse, *The American Gazetteer*, 3d edition (Boston: Thomas & Andrews, 1810), opposite title page
Smith Collection

17. Abraham Bradley, Jr. (American, fl. 1796-1819)
Jedidiah Morse (American, 1761-1826)
Map of the Northern Part of the United States of America
Engraving, hand-colored, 22.0cm x 39.5cm
In: Jedidiah Morse, *The American Gazetteer* (Boston: S. Hall and Thomas & Andrews, 1797), at "New England"
Smith Collection

18. Abraham Bradley, Jr. (American, fl. 1796-1819)
Jedidiah Morse (American, 1761-1826)
Map of the Southern Parts of the United States of America
Engraving, 20.0cm x 38.0cm
In: Jedidiah Morse, *The American Gazetteer* (Boston: S. Hall and Thomas & Andrews, 1797), at "Southern States"
Osher Collection

19. Jedidiah Morse (American, 1761-1826)
A Correct Map of the Georgia Western Territory.
Engraving, 18.0cm x 16.0cm
In: Jedidiah Morse, *The American Gazetteer* (Boston: S. Hall and Thomas & Andrews, 1797), unpaginated appendix
Osher Collection

20. Mathew Carey (Irish/American, 1760-1839)
[Title page]
Facsimile of letterpress, 38.0cm x 21.5cm (paper)
From: *Carey's American Atlas* (Philadelphia: Mathew Carey, 1795)
Osher Collection

21. Samuel Lewis (American, ca. 1754-1822)
Mathew Carey (Irish/American, 1760-1839)
The State of Maryland, from the best Authorities
Engraving, 28.5cm x 42.0cm (paper)
From: *Carey's American Atlas* (Philadelphia: Mathew Carey, 1795), [plate 12]
Smith Collection

22. Mathew Carey (Irish/American, 1760-1839)
The United States of America
Engraving, 24.5cm x 32.0cm
In: *Carey's American Pocket Atlas* (Philadelphia: Mathew Carey, 1796), opp. 5
Smith Collection

5) Geographical Atlases

23. Fielding Lucas, Jr. (American, 1781-1854)
United States
Engraving, hand-colored, 29.5cm x 48.5cm
In: *A General Atlas* (Baltimore: Fielding Lucas, Jr., [1823]), [plate 49]
Osher Collection

24. Carey & Lea (American company, 1822-after 1836)
Geographical, Statistical, and Historical Map of Mexico
Letterpress and hand-colored engraving, 38.5cm x 37.5cm (map)
In: *A Complete Historical, Chronological, and Geographical American Atlas* (Philadelphia: H. C. Carey and I. Lea, 1822), no. 38
Smith Collection

25. Fielding Lucas, Jr. (American, 1781-1854)
Maryland
Engraving, hand-colored, 29.0cm x 50.0cm
In: *United States Atlas* (Baltimore: Fielding Lucas, Jr., [ca. 1823]), [plate 12]
Osher Collection

26. Joseph Hutchins Colton (American, 1800-1893)
Delaware and Maryland
Engraving transferred to lithograph, hand-colored, 32.5cm x 41.0cm

In: *Colton's American Atlas* (New York: J. H. Colton, [1857]), no. 22
Osher Collection

27. David H. Burr (American, 1803-1875)
Delaware and Mary-Land
Engraving, hand-colored, 27.0cm x 32.0cm
In: David H. Burr, *A New Universal Atlas* (New York: D. S. Stone, [1835]), [plate 41]
Osher Collection

28. Henry Schenck Tanner (American, 1786-1858)
Virginia Maryland and Delaware
Engraving, hand-colored, 51.5cm x 72.5cm
In: *A New American Atlas* (Philadelphia: H. S. Tanner, 1823), [plate 15]
Osher Collection

29. Henry Schenck Tanner (American, 1786-1858)
Virginia Maryland and Delaware
Engraving transferred to lithograph, hand-colored, 12.5cm x 15.5cm
In: *A New Pocket Atlas of the United States* (Philadelphia: H. S. Tanner, 1828), [plate 6]
OML Collections

6) Manifest Destiny and the Popular Mapping of Wars

30. Joseph Goldsborough Bruff (American, fl. 1839-1863)
A Correct Map of the Seat of War in Mexico
Lithograph, 62cm x 47.5cm
New York: J. Disturnell, 1847
Smith Collection

31. **The United States in Black and White. The Geographical Position of the Loyal and Rebel States**
Wood engraving, 14.0cm x 23.5cm
In: *The New York Herald* (17 December 1861): 1
Osher Collection

32. **How the War Commenced, and how Near it is Ended.**
Letterpress broadside with wood engraved map, 12.5cm x 29.5cm (map)
New York: National Union Executive Committee, [1864]
Osher Collection

33. **For the Globe's Naval Map. / The Boston Globe's Map of the Atlantic Coast and Scenes of the Naval Manceuvres**
Letterpress, 51.0cm x 39.5cm (map)
From: *The Boston Globe* (4 April 1898): 4-5
Osher Collection

34. **War Maps of Cuba Porto Rico and the Philippines**
Colored lithograph, 24.0cm x 71.0cm
Supplement to *The Sunday Boston Herald* (8 May 1898)
On loan from a private collection

7) Governmental Mapping: Topography, Coastal, Geological

35. John Charles Frémont (American, 1813-1890)

Map of an Exploring Expedition to the Rocky Mountains in the Year 1842 and to Oregon & North California in the Years 1843-44

Engraving transferred to lithograph, hand-colored, 77.5cm x 129.5cm

From: J. C. Frémont, *Report of the Exploring Expedition to the Rocky Mountains in the Year 1842, and to Oregon and North California in the Years 1843-44* (Washington, DC: Gales and Seaton, 1845), insert.
Osher Collection

36. United States Coast Survey
Coast Survey Charts Published

Letterpress, 58.0cm x 20.5cm

Washington, DC, 1853

Found with: *Sketches Accompanying the Annual Report of the Superintendent of the United States Coast Survey*, 1851, H. Exec. Doc. 26, 32d Cong., 2d sess. (Washington, DC, 1851).

Gift of Roger S. Baskes

37. United States Coast Survey
Sketch A. Illustrating the Progress of the Eastern Section of the Survey of the Coast in 1845

Engraving transferred to lithograph, 32.0cm x 27.0cm

In: *Report from the Secretary of the Treasury, Communicating a Report of the Superintendent of the Coast Survey . . . 1845*, Sen. Doc. 13, 29th Cong., 1st sess. (Washington, DC, 1845), between 32 and 33.

Gift of Roger S. Baskes

38. United States Coast Survey

York River Harbor Maine

Lithograph, hand-colored,

32.5cm x 40.5cm

Washington, DC, 1854

OML Collections

39-40. Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey

From: T. C. Chamberlain *et al.*, *Atlas of the Geological Survey of Wisconsin* (Madison,

WI, [1877-1882]), plates 1 and 42
On loan from a private collection

39. **General Geological Map of Wisconsin 1881**

Colored lithograph, 70.5cm x 58.5cm

40. John Eugene Davies (American, 1839-1900)

Triangulation in Wisconsin to 1879, inclusive

Lithograph, 60.5cm x 73.0cm

41-44. United States Geological Survey
Topographical Survey Commission,

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

From: *Atlas of Massachusetts From Topographical Surveys made in Co-operation by the United States Geological Survey and the Commissioners of the Commonwealth*, 1884-1888, preliminary edition (Boston:

Topographical Survey Commission, 1890)

Osher Collection

41. **[Title page]**

Lithograph, 46.0cm x 35.5cm

42. **Index Map of the 54 Atlas Sheets of the Topographical Map of Massachusetts**

Lithograph, 31.0cm x 49.5cm

43. **Massachusetts-Vermont Hawley Sheet**

Colored lithograph, 48.0cm x 33.0cm

44. **Massachusetts Barnstable Sheet**

Colored lithograph, 48.5cm x 33.0cm

45. United States Geological Survey

Maine Portland Quadrangle

Engravings transferred to color lithograph,

44.0cm x 32.0cm

Washington, DC, 1916/1923

OML Collections

46. United States Geological Survey

Maine Portland Quadrangle

Copper plate (cultural features, for printing in black), 53.5cm x 43.0cm

Washington, DC, 1916/1929

OML Collections

Acknowledgments

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The Osher Map Library and Smith Center for Cartographic Education at the University of Southern Maine

The Osher Map Library and Smith Center for Cartographic Education is the only separately established rare map library in northern New England. The Smith and Osher collections comprise fine examples of original maps, atlases, geographies, and globes spanning the years from 1475 to the present. They constitute a rich and multifaceted resource for the study and teaching of geography, history, art, and cultural development. These materials offer such compelling insights into the past that anyone, regardless of age or educational level, can enjoy and learn from them. For the University, the people of Maine, scholars, students, and visitors, the collections are indeed a treasure.

The Collections

The Cartographic Collections were formed from two major gifts, the first from the late Lawrence M. C. and Eleanor Houston Smith, and the second from Dr. Harold L. and Mrs. Peggy L. Osher. Other generous gifts from several individual donors, notably Professor Peter H. Enggass, Tony Naden, and Douglas A. Yorke, have substantially augmented the collections. The combined collections contain more than 60,000 maps, as separate sheets or bound in books and atlases. These books include works on cosmography, astronomy, and navigation, as well as geography and cartography. While the collections possess a global scope, they emphasize the discovery, exploration, and mapping of North America. The original materials are supplemented by many facsimile maps and atlases in reprint editions, together with a reference collection containing monographs and journals on the history of cartography, cartobibliographies, regional histories, and exhibition catalogs.

The Mission

As an integral part of a comprehensive regional university, the Osher Map Library is committed to sharing its collection with a broad constituency by means of exhibitions, publications, lectures, conferences, and other special events. It encourages collaborative efforts with other institutions including museums, historical societies, and teaching institutions ranging from primary to university levels. It serves the University community and residents of Maine and northern New England, including the general public and local school systems. By means of its large Web site, it serves the global community of scholars and researchers.

The Facilities

The Osher Map Library is located on the ground floor of the Albert Brenner Glickman Family Library on the Portland campus of the University of Southern Maine. In addition to the collections and reference materials, the Osher Map Library contains exhibition areas, a seminar room, and facilities for research and study. The Osher Map Library provides access to its resources to the general public and scholars alike.

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