

## Werk

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## **NATIONAL PROGRESS REPORT OF FINLAND 1992-1994**

**PIRKKO KORTTINEN**

*Helsinki University Library, Bibliographic Department*

### **Helsinki University Library, Bibliographic Department**

I shall start with the topic that is nearest and dearest to me: cataloguing. In my previous reports I have stated that after many years plans for starting anew with cataloguing were made in the Bibliographic Department of Helsinki University Library. In August 1993 planning became production as all lacking pieces had been found. The last piece was funding. The cataloguing staff is 1 part time librarian with good experience in cataloguing and a full time geographer with profound knowledge of cartographic materials. This kind of team has proved to be very efficient. During the first phase of the cataloguing project, August-November 1993, the amount of catalogued maps was not as important as the variety of them. A report was prepared about the cataloguing and indexing decisions. During the second phase, January-February 1994, the amount of catalogued maps increased and the decisions laid down in the report were tested. The third phase, May-October 1994, is more or less normal production. By this date about 2,200 maps have been catalogued.

We catalogue on sheet level. The maps are described according to the Finnish cataloguing rules for cartographic materials. The records get geographic names as keywords and are thematically indexed according to the Finnish General Thesaurus. The fact that the map records are in the same database as books and serial publications has forced us to compromises in the indexing of the maps in order to make the retrieval easier. The cataloguing format is FINMARC for maps and the software is VTLS, the Virginia Tech Library System. The database is FENNICA, the Finnish national bibliography database. From Fennica the map records are transferred into the LINDA database, the union catalogue of the Finnish university libraries. Libraries can copy LINDA records for their own databases. Later on the public libraries will also be able to get our map records too. The amount of Finnish map sheets that are catalogued is about 1,000 a year. I have emphasized the importance of this cataloguing project very much, but

many research libraries, especially legal deposit libraries, have waited long for us to restart cataloguing of depository cartographic materials in order that they can copy records and use the data for their own purposes.

Retroconversion of map data has now started in Helsinki University Library. We have started with about 3,000 map records from the printed Finnish national bibliography 1972-1976. The work takes place in Kotka, a small town in Southeastern Finland, in the Catalogue Conversion Centre of the Bibliographic Department. The conversion is made by keyboarding the data from catalogue cards directly into the FENNICA database. The work started in the beginning of August 1994. For the time being one person is doing the work. The restarting of cataloguing of maps made it necessary for the Collections Department to take in use the storage room that was reserved for these maps and to create a call number system for the catalogued maps.

#### **The Nordenskiöld Catalogue**

The fifth volume of the catalogue of the Nordenskiöld Collection will be printed at the end of 1994. This volume consists of a geographical index of the atlases of the collection. The index contains about 30,000 geographical names. It is the first printed geographical index with hierarchical systematics. It can be used as an independent reference work as well as an index for the Nordenskiöld catalogue. With the fifth volume the printed catalogue is completed. For the time being there are no plans for conversion to a database.

#### **ISBN**

The Finnish map producers joined the ISBN system in 1988. The numbering of maps with a standard number system created for books has proved to be problematic. What shall one do with maps that are updated every year but are not map series? A meeting held in October 1993 with the National ISBN Center and representatives of the map producers helped to find a common language but did not solve all the problems. If you have similar problems I would be interested in hearing of them and your possible solutions.

#### **Archives**

In the National Archives of Finland an online cataloguing system for archival materials has been developed and will be installed in near future. The database uses ORACLE software. Cataloguing guidelines have been made according to the ICA (International Council of Archives) guidelines. The cataloguing format is FINMARC for archival materials, which has been recently developed. The system will later contain also map records previously catalogued in a separate

database. The maps in the map collection of the National Archives are traditionally catalogued on the level of archive as well as on the level of the document. The old card catalogue of maps will be recatalogued in the new database.

### **Map producers**

The change of governmental offices into business enterprises, as happened with the main map producers The National Land Survey of Finland and the Map Centre, that I reported in our last meeting, is reflected in their map production.

New maps and new editions of old maps, such as outdoor maps etc. are printed in more bright colours and with flashy lay-outs in order to sell better.

### **The Atlas of Finland**

The 5th edition of the Atlas of Finland was completed in September 1993. The folios have been published since 1977, but most of them have been published during the last years. The Geographical Society of Finland and the National Land Survey of Finland are the joint publishers of this edition. The prolonged time of publishing was caused partly by the often fundamental and time consuming scholarly treatment of numerous themes, and partly because of the necessity to adapt the editorial work to the revolutionary development of the techniques. As earlier it was necessary to have a great size for the atlas, but in order to make it easier to handle this edition is published as 26 thematic folios containing in all 46 separate thematic subject areas. The thematic treatment of the contents in this edition, much more extensive than in the earlier ones, has demanded a great variation of the map scales. In addition to numerous local examples in a large scale, 12 maps on the scale of 1:1 million, are simultaneously published as wall maps. Most of the maps, however, are in scales between 1:8 and 1:16 million.

### **Digital maps**

The National Land Survey of Finland started the so called LIS-project in late 1980s. The result of this project is The Geographic Data Directory System, which contains information of about 140 different databases of geographic data.

The directory system in future will also be available through INTERNET. Information about all Finnish digital map databases can be found in this system. As examples of digital map production in Finland I can mention the files of the Geological Survey and the Basic Map on CD-ROM.

The Geological Survey of Finland does no longer publish new sheets of the Geological map 1:20,000 in printed form. It has also made plans of publishing some of its material on CD-ROM. The National Land Survey of Finland has

published a CD-ROM version of the topographic map 1:20,000. The series of 13 discs was completed in September 1994. The 13 discs comprise the material of about 3,700 map sheets.

A new act concerning legal deposit copies has been under preparation for some years but has not been promulgated yet. This law will also comprise electronic publications.

The Geographic Data Centre of the National Land Survey is very active in the geographic data directory project of CERCO/MEGRIN, GDDD, Geographic Data Description Directory and in CEN preparing a standard for Geographic information.