

Werk

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NATIONAL PROGRESS REPORT OF SWEDEN 1992-1994

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There is no national mapcurators' group, as the number of mapcurators is so small, and most are employed with archives rather than with libraries. There is a network of geoscience librarians, which had a meeting at the National Land Survey at Gävle in May 1994. Current projects within this group mainly concern geoscience literature, classification, Internet, etc., but also a national database of maps. There is no organised education for mapcurators is available.

Automated cataloguing of currently published maps for the national bibliography is being done as before by the Royal Library. The retrieval system for the shared library catalogue (LIBRIS) now enables map search by scale and coordinates, so in effect it is a simple GIS. Other projects are run by the National Archives, the National Land Survey (computerizing its register of historical maps) and several regional Land Survey offices.

The new law on legal deposit includes electronic media, e.g. CD-ROM. There are some spectacular examples of maps which have left Sweden:

- The Rålamb Silver Globe, a 16th century celestial globe, which has probably belonged to Tycho Brahe, appeared at an auction in London but was not sold, and is presumably still in the possession of the Von Heijne family.
- Four Vingboons manuscript maps, which had been in the possession of the Rålamb and Nordenfalk families since the 17th century and were published by Bagrow, appeared at an auction in Stockholm and were acquired by the Amsterdam Maritime Museum for SEK 1 Mill.

Digitizing projects for old maps are run by the National Archives, mainly testing equipment and methods, and the Land Survey, digitizing early 19th century cadastral and topographic maps for easy access mainly within the Land

Survey itself. The Land Survey is also shifting to digital production of the official base maps, and therefore printing of cadastral maps has been postponed for some years. One CD-map has been published by the Land Survey: the 1:250,000 general map of Sweden, a "pixel-map" with a place-name index. More will follow.

A copy of the rare Blaeu World Map of 1648 was restored at the National Archives a few years ago. A slide show on CD-ROM has been produced, but is not yet distributed. Another copy (unrestored) belongs to the Royal Library.

Ulla Ehrensvärd retired from her position at the Military Archives and was succeeded by Björn Gäfvert. The Military Archive itself has been recently dissolved as an independent institution, by governmental decree, and is now subordinated to the National Archives. The renovation of the Royal Library is continuing. The Maps and Prints department will move into new stacks during the spring of 1995, and the whole is to be finished in 1997.

The annual conference of the Swedish Cartographic Society is held every year in April. It is mainly concerned with modern mapping and technical questions, but there is also a Historic section with a half-day paper session. An exhibition on Kartskatter på Krapperup (Map Treasures at Krapperup) on the cadastral maps of a manor in NW Scania was held in 1992. A catalogue was published with the same name.

In 1997 the conference of the International Cartographic Association will be held in Stockholm and there will be an exhibition centred around early cadastral maps.

Sveriges sjökarteväsende 1643-1993 by Ulla Ehrensvärd and Hugo Frithz was published in 1993. It is an anniversary publication of the Hydrographic Office with reproductions of charts, also with English text.