If you are interested in West Texas history and historic maps, you will want to mark April 2 and 3 on your calendar. That Friday and Saturday will witness the first joint meeting in the history of two organizations — the Texas Map Society, and the West Texas Historical Association. Founded in 1924, the West Texas Historical Association is dedicated to promoting the history of a huge region from Fort Worth west to the Texas Panhandle. The Texas Map Society is a much younger organization (founded in 1996), but equally passionate about history — in this case, the history of cartography. Both groups also have a healthy cross section of members. At both the TMS and WTHA meetings, you are liable to meet professors, history buffs, ranchers, and physicians. Therefore, it seemed natural that both groups would welcome a joint meeting where their members could meet and learn from each other.

The meeting will be held at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, with other events downtown at the Grace Cultural Center and the new Museum of West Texas, and out-of-town at the Buffalo Gap Historic Village. A total of sixty papers will be presented on a wide range of subjects. The Texas Map Society presentations will be part of the main program.

Presenters for the Texas Map Society include:

- Don Frazier — Mapping the West Texas Frontier
- Victoria Scism — Mapping the Chihuahua Trail
- John Yates — Mapping the Comanche Trail
- Richard Francaviglia — Mapping and Mining: W. K. Gordon as Cartographer
- Gerald Saxon — Mapping the Texan-Santa Fé Expedition
- Larry Francell — Mapping West Texas, 1848-1860

Abilene is a wonderful place for our meeting — a historical town founded on the Texas & Pacific Railway in the early 1880s. By 1883, the town was recorded in a classic lithographic bird’s eye view, as seen in the downtown section of the map reproduced above. One hundred and twenty-five years later, Abilene’s vibrant historic downtown still faces the railroad, and the folks in Abilene still know how to make visitors feel welcome. The map illustrated here was originally owned by the late journalist-writer-historian A. C. Greene (1923-2002) who hailed from Abilene and whose collection is now housed at UT Arlington. For more information on the Joint TMS/WTHA Meeting, contact Kit Goodwin at 817-272-5329 (Voice), or goodwin@uta.edu (E-mail).
**El Cerrito, New Mexico: Eight Generations in a Spanish Village**

In *El Cerrito, New Mexico: Eight Generations in a Spanish Village*, geographer Richard Nostrand provides a detailed account of a village that he has studied for about twenty-five years. El Cerrito ("little hill" in Spanish) is such a small out-of-the-way community that Nostrand actually missed finding it on his first attempt in 1979. Upon finally locating El Cerrito, Nostrand discovered a classic farming village that traces its history back to the 1790s. Although El Cerrito is a small community (population ca. 25), it is rich in history. Like many such places, El Cerrito was once larger, but young people typically leave to seek opportunities in larger communities. As a geographer, Nostrand is well prepared to interpret not only the village's history, but also its relationship to the physical environment. El Cerrito is located in the upper reaches of the Pecos River in an upland riparian site that is well watered. Its inhabitants have lived close to the land for eight generations. El Cerrito is strongly Spanish in heritage, known for many examples of admirable Spanish values — such as extended families, mutual respect, sense of humor — as well as for the more universal sense of place. (pp. 175-176). Nostrand's book is rich in information about the village's site, people, and history — a remarkably detailed study considering how small a place El Cerrito is. Nostrand's geographical perspective includes valuable information about the morphology (or layout) of the village and its architecture. Nostrand nicely shows how both the village and its people have changed over the years. In addition to describing and interpreting the sweeping changes El Cerrito has experienced over more than 200 years, (including the influx of Anglo-Americans), this book provides detailed documentation to back up Nostrand's observations and interpretations. Its appendices are a treasure trove of information. As might be expected, this book also includes several maps of the village and its location. An added bonus is geographer Charles Gritzner's diagram depicting the "life zones and building materials in New Mexico" — a reminder that life here is zoned vertically.

*El Cerrito, New Mexico: Eight Generations in a Spanish Village* is available from the University of Oklahoma Press, 4100 28th Avenue N.W., Norman, OK 73069-8218, Phone: 405-325-3000 (800-627-7377), E-mail: customerservice@oup.com.

**Boundaries Between: The Southern Paiutes 1775-1995**

The Southern Paiute Indians live where the popularly-defined Southwest and the Great Basin converge. Here, in adjoining portions of Arizona, Utah, California, and Nevada, the Southern Paiutes have experienced sweeping cultural changes since the arrival of the Dominguez-Escalante expedition in the mid-1770s. Subsequent arrivals include the fur trappers, Mormons, miners, and urban developers — all of whom had an impact on the Southern Paiutes. In this comprehensive study, anthropologist Martha C. Knack shows how the Southern Paiutes' adaptability enabled them to survive more than two centuries of cultural contact and conflict. She begins by discussing the environment of the Southern Paiutes. She observes that their survival depended on intimate knowledge of locations, flora and fauna; the Southern Paiutes not only moved throughout this region in search of sustenance, they also moved vertically, that is, up into the mountains or down into the valleys, when those areas would yield better natural resources. Throughout their long history, the Southern Paiutes have interacted with outsiders, but usually lost something in the process as their ancestral lands and waters were appropriated. Knack uses a wealth of historical records from varied archives — including Mormon, governmental, and tribal — to tell this story. Knack covers the 19th and 20th centuries with equal care and considerable skill. This history covers divergent topics, notably: social and religious customs (including Mormon beliefs about American Indians as "Lamanites," or members of the lost tribes of Israel); politics (namely the tribes' response to the creation of reservations, and the effects of "termination" by which Indians would cease to be members of tribes and become assimilated individuals); and economics (including changes in Paiute livelihood from hunting and gathering, agriculture, ranching, mining, and recent industrial and commercial activities).

*Boundaries Between* is essential reading for all students of the American West and Native American history. Knack's conclusion — that Southern Paiutes "have survived into the twenty-first century against overwhelming odds" is a heartening reminder that Native Americans are still a vital part of the modern West. *Boundaries Between* is available from the University of Nebraska Press, 233 North 8th Street, Lincoln NE 68588-0255; Phone: 402-472-3584 (1-800-755-1105), E-Mail: pressmail@unl.edu.
Landmarks in The Cartographic History of The Great Basin

by Richard Francaviglia

The Great Basin is one of the least known portions of the Greater Southwest. It was also the last region in the continental United States to be mapped. A large area of about 165,000 square miles, the Great Basin lies between the Wasatch Mountains and the Sierra Nevada range in western North America. The distinguishing physical characteristic of this area is its interior drainage: none of the precipitation falling within this region reaches the sea, but rather finds its way into topographic depressions — locally called basins or sinks. The Great Basin is generally an arid and semi-arid region in the rain shadow of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Evaporation here exceeds precipitation, and has since the end of the Pleistocene period about 10,000 years ago. During the Pleistocene period, the region possessed two huge lakes — Lahontan in the west, and Bonneville in the east. At times during the million-year long period before the present, overflow reached the Pacific via a drainage northward into the Snake River. With increasing desiccation, however, most of this region became a desert, although its numerous mountains are moister and often forested. The native peoples here, notably the Paiute, Shoshone, and Washo Indians, tended to migrate in search of plants and animals that they harvested as hunters and gatherers, though there were some areas of semi-permanent settlement near dependable sources of water, especially springs.

The Great Basin remained a complete blank on most European maps of North America until the Spaniards began to explore it in the eighteenth century. By the mid 1700s, Spanish maps began to delineate some of the geographic features here. Francisco Barreiro’s 1728 map “Plano Corográfico e Hydrografico de las Provincias ... de la Nueva España” is one of the cartographic watersheds in the region’s history, for it reveals that some of the rivers here drain toward a lake — a clear suggestion that the hydrology is internal. How did the Spaniards gain this knowledge? Because Spanish explorers had evidently not actually reached this region, much of the information about the Interior West on Barreiro’s map appears to be from Native American informants. A careful review of explorers’ reports confirms that native peoples here created maps — some actually drawn in the sand — to describe the countryside. The only known Spanish entrada into the Great Basin in the eighteenth century was the Domínguez-Escalante expedition of 1776, which sought a route from Santa Fe, New Mexico to Monterey, California. That expedition mapped the area around Utah Lake and Sevier Lake, but was unable to cross the region. It did, however, speculate that a river crossed the region to the Pacific. That river is mythical rather than real, but there is a grain of truth here for the Humboldt River runs across much of the region before ending in the Humboldt Sink. Meriá’s map represents yet another cartographic watershed because it was the first to be based on an actual observation. However, because Spain rarely published any maps out of concern for secrecy, much of this information was never seen by the general public. By 1795, William Winterbotham’s map of western North America shows lakes (one probably the Great Salt Lake) with rivers running into them. Winterbotham’s map is remarkable in that it appears to be the first widely published document to suggest that the Interior West is an area of interior drainage.

By the early 1800s, mapping the Intermountain West became important geopolitically, and it was represented in maps by Alexander von Humboldt, Zebulon Pike, and John Arrowsmith. Anglo-American interest in the region intensified by the 1810s and 1820s, and many sought the fabled river that would take them to the Pacific Ocean. Like the Spaniards,
those Anglo Americans hoped that a westward-flowing river (called the Buena Ventura by some) would carry their dreams of empire to the Pacific. However, explorers would soon prove them and their ambitious maps wrong. By the 1820s and 1830s, several expeditions by mountain men and explorers began to yield more accurate geographic information. These included journeys by Jedediah Smith, Joseph Walker and Captain Benjamin Bonneville. These explorers confirmed that the Humboldt River did not reach the sea. Despite hints about its landlocked quality, the Great Basin region's interior drainage still remained poorly understood until John Charles Frémont traversed the area and its margins in 1843-1844. Building on his own field observations and information from native peoples and earlier explorers, Frémont determined that the Sierra Nevada mountains blocked all the region's rivers from reaching the Pacific Ocean. Frémont coined the term "Great Basin" in 1844, and the name has stuck despite the fact that this region actually consists of about one hundred separate basins. The map by Charles Preuss from the Frémont expedition is considered a landmark in the cartographic history of the American West. It was the first popular printed map to portray the region much as we know it today — a huge area bounded by mountains on its eastern and western margins — a region whose rivers and streams have no outlet to the sea.

The region's mapping did not end there. In 1847, the Mormons (as members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints are called) further helped put the region on the map when they created Salt Lake City. They also drafted many of their own informative maps of this region. After the discovery of gold in California (1849), the Great Basin was traversed by increasing numbers of travelers. The period of aggressive U.S. survey activity continued from the early 1850s to about 1890, when the remaining portions of the Great Basin were explored and mapped. These surveyors included Charles Simpson, John W. Gunnison, and George Wheeler. At the same time, and often on the same reconnaissance expeditions, geologists also mapped the Great Basin. They confirmed what prospectors knew: the region's mountains contained rich deposits of gold, silver, lead, and copper. Based on explorations in 1868-1872, Clarence King's reports of the geology of this region are noteworthy, and helped raise geological mapping to an art. By 1869, the Great Basin lay on the route of the first transcontinental railroad as the Central Pacific Railroad traversed much of it along the Humboldt River. In May of that year, the CPRR met the Union Pacific at Promontory Summit at the north edge of the Great Salt Lake. By 1900, the Great Basin was no longer terra incognita as miners and agriculturalists had helped demystify it. And yet, the area is still very lightly populated today. One area west of Utah's Great Salt Lake had the dubious distinction of being called the "Great American Desert" on maps until the 1920s. For many travelers, it still remains the American outback.

Any region comes to be known in fits and starts as exploration yields information. Although all maps are important, some qualify as landmarks in cartographic history because they so perfectly represent geographic knowledge — or geographic fantasy. Some maps like Barreiro's, Miera's, and Winterbotham's are seemingly ahead of their time. Others perpetuate erroneous information long after solid exploration reveals their features to be fanciful. But they, too, serve a purpose for they capture the spirit of the times, revealing dreams of expansion and empire. Although the books listed below contain examples of some of the landmark maps mentioned in this essay, readers can see a number of them first hand in a special exhibit — Landmark Maps of the Great Basin — scheduled to open later this spring at UTA. Contact the Center at 817-272-3997 or E-mail to swcenter@uta.edu for more information about this exhibit.

Sources:
Carl Wheat, Mapping the Trans-Mississippi West, 1540-1861 (6 vols.) (San Francisco: The Institute of Historical Cartography, 1957-1963).

[Editor's Note: Richard Francaviglia is Professor of History and Geography at the University of Texas at Arlington, where he also directs the Center for Greater Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography.]
Center Receives Two Grants to Improve Education

For several years, UTA's Center for Greater Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography has worked on grant-funded projects that improve education in Texas. This included the "Cartographic Connections" project (1999-2002), which resulted in the creation of a Website by that name that is now used by teachers and students statewide (http://libraries.utexas.edu/cc). In the fall of 2003, the Center received news that two of its recently-submitted grant proposals were funded:

- The Summerlee Foundation of Dallas has provided $25,000 for the project entitled "Improving the Teaching of Texas History." This project will find the Center consulting with teachers (and students) statewide to prepare a report on the state of Texas history education. We also plan to consult with the Texas State Historical Association and the Texas Education Agency as we prepare the report. We are especially interested in identifying those factors that contribute to the effective teaching of Texas history in grades K-12. The report will be completed by December 31, 2004.

- The Houston Endowment, Inc. has provided $65,750 for the project "Touchstones to History: Using Historic Resources in Internet/Video-Based Educational Outreach." The project's goal is to improve history and geography education in Texas through the production of a web-based video using a UTA's collection of historic maps of Texas dating from the 1500s through the late 1800s. We plan to show how these maps compare to present-day data available on GIS (Geographic Information Systems) maps. Working closely with selected teachers/students and UTAs video department and libraries staff, we will produce a fifteen minute video history lesson (theme: "Natural Encounters") that will be streamed to the "Cartographic Connections" website. We envision completing the video by early 2005, and promoting it statewide shortly thereafter.

Both projects will involve collaboration statewide. Our goal with the first project will be to give decision makers guidance; the second project will provide an educational product that can help teachers and students better understand and appreciate Texas history. For more information, contact Richard Francaviglia, Director, Center for the Greater Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography, Box 19497 - Central Library, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas 76019. Phone: (817) 272-3997; FAX: (817) 272-5797; E-mail: francaviglia@uta.edu.

Center Fellows Updates

Robert Fairbanks recently published an article entitled "Harland Bartholomew and the Planning of Modern Dallas" in Legacy: A History Journal for Dallas and North Central Texas (September 2003). He also continues work on his book manuscript on Public Housing and Urban Renewal in the Southwest, and to work as story line consultant for the Old Red Museum of Dallas History and Culture.

George Green's chapter, "The Oil and Gas Industry in Texas," was completely revised, in The Texas Heritage, 4th ed. Ben Procter and Archie McDonald, editors, (Wheeling, Ill.: Harlan Davidson, 2003). He gave a paper, "Tumult on Texas Railroads: the Fall of the Knights of Labor and the Rise of the Railway Brotherhoods, 1886-1896," at the Texas State Historical Association, El Paso, March 2003, and was elected President of the TSHA at this convention.

Sam Haynes was recently interviewed by the History Channel for a documentary on the American presidency entitled "To the Best of my Ability," which will be aired during the 2004 presidential election. In October, he gave a paper "An Ally in the Centre of the American Line: Anglophobia and the Nullification Crisis," at the British Association of American Studies in Cambridge University. Dr. Haynes continues to work on his long-term project on anti-British attitudes during the Jacksonian period.

David Narrett addressed the subject of filibustering (i.e., privately organized military expeditions) in the Louisiana borderlands in papers given at the Gulf South Historical Association meeting in Galveston (Oct. 2002) and at the Rural Life Museum of Louisiana State University (Mar. 2003). These papers form part of his book project on independent frontier republics and the American Union.

Ken Philp contributed book reviews in Journal of American History, Alaska History and the Nevada Historical Quarterly. His current research is a book manuscript, Triumph Over Termination: the Persistence of Native American Identity, 1953-1975. His book Termination Revisited was recognized by the American Library Association (Choice) as an "Outstanding Academic Title."

Dennis Reinhartz delivered the paper "Divided by Empire, Reunited by Tourism: Tourist Maps of Sint Maarten/Saint Martin" at the Phillip Lee Phillips Society and the Texas Map Society. Dr. Reinhartz is developing a new graduate course on "Transatlantic Commodities."

Judy Reinhartz continues her research, service, and teaching about science in the Greater Southwest. She is also director of the Center for Research and Teacher Researcher Academy, which publishes the Teacher Research Academy Journal.

Doug Richmond recently presented three papers: "Mexican State Governments and the Carranza Regime, 1914-1920" at the 36th annual meeting of the Southwest Council of Latin American Studies in New Orleans; "el Primer Jefe Contra la Casa Blanca, 1913-1920" at the Centro Cultural Vito Alessio Robles who published it in Provincias Internas 8 (Summer 2003); and "Social Conflict in Yucatan, 1848-1877" at the XI Conference of Mexican, United States, and Canadian Historians in Monterrey, Mexico.

Ken Roemer won the UTA's Outstanding Student Advisor Award for 2002-2003 for his work with the Native American Student Association. His article about teaching American Indian literature in Japan ("The Kiowa-Matsue Connection") appeared in Crossing Oceans (Hong Kong University Press, 2004) and another article ("Eyewitness to Utopia") in Millennial Perspectives.

Roberto Treviño recently published an article in the Western Historical Quarterly titled "Facing Jim Crow: Catholic Sisters and the 'Mexican Problem' in Texas." His essay on ethnicity will appear soon in a collection of essays on religion and American culture by the University of North Carolina Press. Dr. Treviño's book, Mexican-American Pilgrimage: Ethno-Catholicism in Houston, 1911-1972, is currently under review by the University of North Carolina Press.
Meet the Center Faculty

M. Kathryn Brown is a new faculty member in UTA’s Sociology/Anthropology Department, and is currently teaching courses in Mesoamerican archaeology, North American archaeology, Texas archaeology, and method and theory in archaeology. Prior to her appointment at UTA, she directed the Texas Archaeological Field School for Texas State University, San Marcos for eight years and taught a number of courses as an adjunct professor. She received her Ph.D. from Southern Methodist University in May 2003. Her research interests include Mesoamerican studies, warfare and conflict, complex societies, Texas archaeology, and Southwestern prehistory. Recently, she has been focusing her efforts towards excavating and preserving Texas historical sites in the Arlington area. During the summer of 2003, she directed archaeological excavations at the Berachah Home Site, a historic site located on campus. She has several upcoming articles and book chapters. Most recently, she published an edited volume entitled Mesoamerican Warfare by Altamira Press.

Center Fellows to be Nominated/Appointed

Every three years, the Center Director appoints ten Center Fellows. These Fellows help advise the Director about Center programs and activities, and are selected from the UTA faculty. The next term begins in the fall of 2004. Nominations are due by April 30th, and should be provided to Nominating Committee Chair Don Kyle, History Department, Box 19529, UTA, or email kyle@uta.edu.

Center Fellows: Bob Fairbanks, Professor of History; George Green, Professor of History; Sam Haines, Associate Professor of History; David Narrett, Associate Professor of History; Kenneth Philp, Professor of History; Dennis Reinhardt, Professor of History; Judy Reinhardt, Professor of Education; Doug Richmond, Professor of History; Ken Roemer, Professor of English; and Roberto Treviño, Associate Professor of History.

Associate Center Fellows: David Buiser, Jenkins and Virginia Garrett Endowed Chair for Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography; Manuel García y Griego, Director, Center for Mexican-American Studies; and Jay Henry, Professor of Architecture.