

100 Years of National Topographical Mapping

ANU Canberra, 28 & 28 March 2011

The conference drew 64 delegates from all over Australia, listed below:

Alex	Petrow	ACT Planning & Land Authority
John	Ashby	Airservices Australia
Boban	Novinc	Airservices Australia
Lucas	Spensberger	Airservices Australia
Colin	Hargreaves	Airservices Australia
Dennis	Harbard	ANZMapS
Kay	Dancey	Australian National University
Chris	Hutchison	CR Hutchison & Co.
John	Sutton	ex AUSLIG
Brock	Bryce	ex NATMAP
Ed	Burke	ex NATMAP
Oz	Ertok	ex NATMAP
Bob	Irwin	ex NATMAP
Syd	Kirkby	ex NATMAP
Graeme	Lawrence	ex NATMAP
Rod	Menzies	ex NATMAP
Bill	Stuchbery	ex NATMAP
Paul	Wise	ex NATMAP
Andrew	Turk	ex NATMAP & Murdoch University
Frank	Leahy	ex NATMAP & University of Melbourne
Ian	Hall	ex NATMAP & Wingan Software
John	Manning	ex NATMAP/AUSLIG/GA
Ian	Miller	ex NATMAP/GA
William	Haylock	ex SA Lands
John	Hillier	ex Survey Corps
Peter	Jensen	ex Survey Corps
Steve	Rose	ex Survey Corps
Bob	Williams	ex Survey Corps
Dennis	Puniard	ex Survey Corps & AUSLIG
Charlie	Watson	ex Survey Corps & AUSLIG
Greg	Scott	Geoscience Australia
Alan	Swift	Geoscience Australia
Bill	Cartwright	ICA President

Lesley	Waterhouse	ICSM
Brian	Goodchild	Landgate
Greg	Heron	MSIA Councillor
Pat	Killoran	MSIA Councillor
Adam	Ladhams	MSIA Councillor
Michael	Turner	MSIA Councillor
Alan	Unkles	MSIA Councillor
Graeme	Wright	MSIA Councillor
Colin	Mitford	MSIA Councillor
Alan	Armitage	MSIA Director
John	McCormack	MSIA Director
David	Fraser	MSIA Past President
Les	Isdale	MSIA President
Martin	Woods	National Library of Australia
Drew	Clarke	NATMAP/AUSLIG/GA
Colin	Kimber	NATMAP/GA
Kirk	Mitchell	NAVTEQ
Louise	Paynter	NT Library
Colin	Cuskelly	Photomapping Services
Troy	Hale	Position Magazine
Anthony	Hesling	PSMA Australia
William	Mortimer	Queensland Government
Richard	Stanaway	Quickclose Software
Elise	Edmonds	State Library NSW
Maggie	Patton	State Library NSW
Greg	Gibson	Teerman Newton Richmond Pty Ltd
Chandra	Jayasuriya	University of Melbourne
Richard	Miller	Wollongong University
Marianne	Cuskelly	
Bill	Moore	

Papers

1 Nineteenth Century Exploration Mapping:
William Wills' Mapping of the Ghastly Blank

F. J. Leahy

2 The First Official Topographical Map of the
Commonwealth of Australia, 1912

Brian Goodchild

3 Topographic Mapping in Australia 1910-1945

Trevor Menzies

4 History of Geodesy in Australia

John Manning

5 Imagery for Mapping Australia

Carl McMaster

6 Australia's First 1:250,000 Scale, Uniform
Topographic Map Coverage: The R502 Story

Paul Wise

7 The 1:100,000 Scale Topographic Mapping Program
- Assisted by Technology

Rod Menzies & Paul Wise

8 Post-World War II Topographic Mapping
by the Royal Australian Survey Corps

Peter Jensen

9 Australia's Role in the Mapping of Papua New
Guinea: from colonial outpost to independent nation

Dennis J. Puniard

10 Australian Topographic Mapping in Antarctica

John Manning



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In addition to the above papers Drew Clarke, now Secretary of RET gave the keynote address "100 YEARS OF NATIONAL TOPOGRAPHIC MAPPING IN AUSTRALIA - are we there yet?" and Greg Scott, Group Leader, National Geographic Information, Geoscience Australia spoke on "Topographic Mapping in Australia - From the Present to the Future".

Two of the major reports that impacted topo mapping in Australia, Brown 1951 and Richardson 1986, were both declassified and provided to the delegates along with the papers.

The Conference also passed the following motion:

“With the merging of the Commonwealth mapping organisations, and evolution of Commonwealth mapping activities, significant historical material has been retained only through the efforts of individuals and now its continued preservation is in doubt. The delegates to this conference agree that this material should not be lost to history but its preservation requires a central repository and active program to gather this material.

This conference therefore recommends that:

Geoscience Australia, as its leadership in the Commonwealth’s spatial information activities is built on the success and history of its mapping predecessors and with suitable existing library facilities, instigate a program, with support of the professional associations, to seek, acquire, centralise and preserve historical papers, documents and photographs relevant to the surveying and mapping of Australia, currently dispersed amongst individuals, further;

the conference urges Geoscience Australia to expand this program to include historical survey and drafting equipment suitable for (permanent) display at GA.

In addition, in support of GA’s program the professional associations advise their members that such a program now exists and encourage their members to participate if they have suitable material”.

Proposed: Paul Wise
Seconded: Rod Menzies
Passed with one against
29 March 2011