Until recently, there was no single, comprehensive listing to which researchers could turn to determine both the existence and availability of maps of Upper Canada dating from the British colonial period. Those partial checklists which did exist were limited to the works of an individual creator, a specific type of mapping, maps showing a defined geographical area within the province, or maps produced over a certain period of time. This has changed with the publication of Joan Winearls's carto-bibliography, *Mapping Upper Canada, 1780-1867*.

When Winearls, map librarian at the University of Toronto and a recognized expert in the history of cartography in Ontario, began this work in the 1970s, she envisaged preparing a 'quick checklist' of nineteenth-century maps of Ontario. However, as she explains in her introduction, instead of finding, as anticipated, 3,000 maps of the province created before 1900, she discovered over 7,000 maps dating to the colonial period, located in private collections and in repositories across Canada and in Great Britain and the United States. Consequently, the time frame and physical scope of the project were revised.

Winearls clearly delineates the parameters of her work in the introduction, explaining that her objective is 'to provide a complete list of all significant and autonomous maps ... of Upper Canada in the years between 1780 and 1867, from the beginning of effective British occupation until Confederation' (p. xv). Every map prepared during this period does not qualify as 'significant and autonomous,' and Winearls provides a cogent rationale for her decision to omit certain types of records such as Hudsons Bay Company maps and minor town and township plans.

Unlike many carto-bibliographies, which are limited to printed maps, Winearls has chosen to include both manuscript and printed material. In doing this, she has produced a work which will appeal not only to map collectors, but also to researchers interested both in specific maps and in the evolution of the province. Indeed, Winearls places the bibliography into the context of the history of Ontario as a whole through her succinct, carefully crafted introduction which explores the way in which maps 'show in graphic form how the province emerged' (p. xvii).

The bibliography is organized in three main groups. Part I lists general maps of the whole province, with entries arranged chronologically. Part II consists of maps of seven regions in the province (based on physical features and administrative divisions); maps are arranged chronologically within each region. Part III is comprised of municipal plans, with entries grouped alphabetically by community name, then arranged chronologically. Approximately 20% of the maps are found in part I, 35% in part II, and 45% in part III.

The regional approach of part II can be somewhat confusing. At times, it is
difficult to know in which region an area is located, particularly as regions may cross county boundaries. To assist researchers, Winearls has included a map showing pre-1974 county and district boundaries, on which has been superimposed her regional boundaries. In instances where maps cover more than one region, they have been placed in part I with the general maps. As Winearls herself notes: 'Not surprisingly, the maps in Part II did not all fit neatly into the seven regions.... Generally, maps are found in the part with which they best fit....' (p. xvii). However, a detailed subject index does permit researchers to locate all maps relevant to a specific region, regardless of their placement in the bibliography.

Certain conventions of presentation have been established, both for manuscript maps, in the way in which related maps and map 'sets' are handled, and for printed material, in relation to the thorny issues of determining editions and states of maps and of dating. Within parts I, II, and III, entries are composed of seven discrete sections. Each section, with the exception of the date, is begun on a new line. Entries are numbered consecutively, with later editions and states assigned sub-numbers and separated from the main entry by the heading 'Later editions and states.'

The first line of each entry consists of the entry number, followed by the date of the production or publication of the map. Bold typeface and italics are used to distinguish these sections from the remainder of the entry. There follows a full bibliographical statement, including a complete and exact transcription of the title, the statement of responsibility, and publishing or preparation information. Upper and lower case letters and line endings, but not type style, are indicated. When dealing with subsequent editions and states, elision marks are used to show where information has changed. The next section consists of a physical description, including format and technique, size, scale, and watermark. All relevant endorsements, stamps, or numbers are transcribed and recorded after the heading 'Endorsements.' The annotation is indented from the main body of the entry, and includes, as appropriate, descriptive details, information on provenance and dating, bibliographical comments placing the map in the context of its creation, comments concerning significance of the map and the archival fonds to which it belongs, sources of information, and references to the map in other bibliographies and catalogues. The last section records the present location of the map and call numbers when known. In order to assist users, Winearls helpfully provides sample entries for both manuscript and printed maps, which are keyed to descriptions of their constituent sections.

In addition to the main body of the bibliography, Winearls has produced five appendices. Appendix A consists of a listing of official township plans, currently located either at the Archives of Ontario or the Survey Records Office of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, which were prepared by surveyors under instruction from the provincial government. Plans are arranged alphabetically by township, then chronologically within that grouping, and assigned sequential numbers prefixed by the letter 'A.' Each entry includes: the date of the original
survey instructions where available; the date of the plan; names of the surveyors and other authorizing signatures; notes (including endorsements, original township numbers, and descriptions of other features such as roads and settlements); scale; field notebooks numbers; and current location.

Appendix B lists registered subdivision plans of towns which can be found at Ontario Land Registry Offices. The format is much the same as that of appendix A. Plans are arranged alphabetically by town, then chronologically within that grouping, and assigned sequential numbers prefixed by the letter ‘a’. Each entry includes: the date of survey; the date of registration; the names of the surveyor and of the owner of the land being subdivided; an exact description of the survey with lot and concession numbers or street boundaries and additional notes showing endorsements, original township numbers, descriptions of other features such as roads and settlements, scale, and field notebooks numbers; and the current location of the plan. As with parts I to III, sample entries for both township and registered plans are provided, as well as explanations of their constituent sections.

Appendix C consists of official nautical charts of the Great Lakes, in both printed and manuscript form, which were prepared in the course of British and American surveys. The charts are grouped by survey, arranged within that division by area, then subfiled chronologically. Appendix D lists official maps of international boundary surveys required under the Treaty of Ghent (1814) and the Treaty of Washington (1842). Appendix E consists of a listing of towns by county according to pre-1974 boundaries.

Access to the bibliography is provided through three indexes: a name index including the names of all those involved in making the map; a subject index covering ‘general themes specifically indicated in the titles of maps’ (p. xxx) as well as place names; and a title index composed of the short titles of all printed maps. From an archival perspective, it would also have been useful to have included an index which brought together, when appropriate, maps under the title of the fonds of which they are a part. Users, then, could see the relationship of seemingly discrete items to the larger whole of the fonds.

Mapping Upper Canada is an important work in carto-bibliography in the way it melds together detailed bibliographical description with painstaking analysis and interpretation. But Winearls has gone beyond this: through her introduction to the many themes revealed by maps, as well as through the indexes and descriptions of entries she provides, Winearls has produced a bibliography which should be readily accessible to all researchers, whether they are experienced or inexperienced in the use of maps as an historical resource. In the past, as Winearls herself has noted, early maps of Ontario often were overlooked due to ‘simple ignorance of their value’ (p. ix). With the publication of Mapping Upper Canada, it should be impossible to disregard the continuing importance of this record to an understanding of our past.

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