Rediscovering the Past / Mapmaking

By the turn of the 19th century, mapping had established itself as a scientific enterprise, often government funded, and conducted by skilled military personnel. During the 19th century, European countries made national maps with enthusiasm. They were partly for economic and social improvement, and partly a statement of national identity and pride. An international collaboration mapped the seas for the benefit of all. Growing international cooperation also established Greenwich as the prime meridian (1884), agreed time zones, and led to the production of an "International Map" of the whole world. Improvements in printing technology made maps cheaper (and more widespread) and now colourful. Other types of map were published, such as geological maps, or thematic ones, showing wealth or disease.



Working Number: DZ 083

Name: Map of Oran

Holding Museum: Musée Public National des Antiquités

Date: 1840–1846

Materials: -

Curator Justification: At the turn of the 19th century, only a tiny percentage of the

world had been mapped.



Working Number: UA 001

Name: Map to illustrate the Route of David Roberts Esq. R. A. in the

Holding Museum: Holy Land, Petrea and Syria

Date: Sharjah Art Museum / Sharjah Museums Authority

Materials: Published 1849

Curator Justification: Coloured steel engraving

Readers were able to connect views with maps to create an

idea of landscapes and environment.



Working Number: UK 081

Name: Watercolour by Claude R. Conder

Holding Museum: The Palestine Exploration Fund (PEF)

Date: 1870's

Materials: -

Curator Justification: Maps were produced by expert surveyors using cutting-edge

equipment and techniques.



Working Number: UK 085

Name: SWP Geological Map

Holding Museum: The Palestine Exploration Fund (PEF)

Date: 1880's

Materials: -

Curator Justification: Maps were very useful for administrative and economic

purposes.



Working Number: IT1 082

Name: Comic Map of Seat of War with Entirely New Features (London:

Rock Brothers and Payne, 1854)

Date: State Archives of Palermo

Materials: 1854

Curator Justification:

Holding Museum:

Made during the Crimean War in 1854, this satirical map portrays countries and animals. The tyrannical Russian bear is faced off by the turkey (Turkey) and its allies the lion (England)

and eagle (France).



Working Number: TR2 066

Name: Postal map

Holding Museum: Istanbul Postal Museum

Date: 1911

Materials: -

Curator Justification: This map charts the postal network across the Ottoman Empire.



Working Number: TR2 113

Name: Near Eastern and Balkan map

Holding Museum: Istanbul University, Nadir Eserler Kütüphanesi (Rare Books

Date: Library)

Materials: 19th century

Curator Justification: Photograph

An Ottoman map of the Eastern Mediterranean, labelled in

Turkish.



Working Number: RO 039

Name: Ottoman map of the Romanian countries

Holding Museum: National Museum of Romanian History

Materials: -

Date:

Curator Justification: An early 19th-century Ottoman map of Romania and

Beginning of the 19th century

surrounding areas, with borders between territories marked in

different colours.



Working Number: RO 045

Name: Map of the 1877–1878 war

Holding Museum: National Museum of Romanian History

Date: 1877

Materials: -

Curator Justification: A map of Romania and surrounding areas at the start of the

Russo-Ottoman war in 1877. Important cities and railways were

marked, as well as colour-coding regions.



Working Number: AT 039

Name: Map of the Network of Caravans

Holding Museum: Austrian State Archives

Date: 1856

Materials: -

Curator Justification: The caravan routes of Egypt and Western Arabia are marked

on this map.



Working Number: UK 116

Name: Map of caravan routes

Holding Museum: The British Library

Date: 1897

Materials: -

Curator Justification: This map was made to teach British students about the

interconnecting trade and pilgrimage routes across North Africa.



Working Number: IT1 125

Name: A map of Tunisia (1:1,600,000) showing Italian agricultural

Holding Museum: settlements, mines, coral- and sponge-fishing areas and boat

ines

Date: Italian Geographical Society (SGI)

Materials: 1906

Curator Justification:

This 1906 map of the French Protectorate of Tunisia was made in Italy. It shows Italian agricultural settlements, mines, coral-

and sponge-fishing areas and shipping lines.



Working Number: LB 101

Name: Map of Beirut as it appeared in 1841

Holding Museum: American University of Beirut

Date: 1841

Materials: -

Curator Justification: A map of Beirut in 1841 before the extensive rebuilding works.



Working Number: LB 099

Name: Map of Beirut

Holding Museum: American University of Beirut, Jafet Library, Archives and

Special Collections Department

Materials: 1876

Curator Justification:

Date:

A map of Beirut made in 1876 for presentation to Sultan 'Abd al-Hamid II. It is a detailed land-survey map of the area, marking the locations of government departments, consulates, military posts, educational and health institutions, public parks,

cemeteries and archaeological sites.



Working Number: TR2 112

Date:

Name: Ottoman map of the period of Sultan Abdülhamid II

Holding Museum: Istanbul University, Nadir Eserler Kütüphanesi (Rare Books

Library)

Materials: 19th century

Curator Justification: Photograph

This map shows the Ottoman Empire under 'Abd al-Hamid II.

The names of places are written in French.



Working Number: TR2 114

Name: Istanbul water pipeline map

Holding Museum: Istanbul University, Nadir Eserler Kütüphanesi (Rare Books

Date: Library)

Materials: 19th century

Curator Justification: Photograph

A detailed map showing the water-pipeline network of Istanbul.