

# cartographic perspectives

Number 27, Spring 1997

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### FROM THE GUEST EDITORS

This particular issue of *Cartographic Perspectives* is dedicated to one of the greatest North American cartographers who passed away in October, 1996, Professor Dr. John Clinton Sherman of the Department of Geography at the University of Washington. Professor Sherman produced 15 Ph.D.'s plus numerous graduate and undergraduate students in cartography, one of the most productive and influential professors of our time. Many of his graduate and undergraduate students continued to finish their Ph.D.'s elsewhere and became influential faculty members in cartography.

NACIS is proud to dedicate this issue in honor of Dr. Sherman because of his tremendous contribution to cartography in North America. At a time when cartography was at its infancy as an academic discipline, Dr. Sherman, along with Dr. Arthur Robinson and Dr. George Jenks pivoted their roles as professors and guided the discipline to new academic heights. These three professors, along with the students they





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produced, basically shaped and  
influenced the directions of North  
American cartography today.  
Many of Dr. Sherman's students  
enthusiastically contributed

articles to this issue. These articles  
fall into three different categories.  
The first category includes techni-  
cal cartographic articles. The  
second category consists of major  
tributes to Dr. Sherman's career  
achievements and his unique and  
effective teaching style. Both of  
these categories are refereed. The  
third category is made up of brief  
articles from students' fond  
memories of Dr. Sherman. Even  
with this entire issue dedicated to  
Dr. Sherman, it is inadequate to  
fully account for his lifelong  
dedication to cartography, his  
contributions to academia, his  
influence on the direction of the  
discipline, and his unique place in  
the development of tactile [a.k.a.  
tactual] maps. The developments  
in tactile mapping have now  
become a worldwide interest with  
the establishment of the Interna-  
tional Cartographic Association's  
Committee on Tactile Mapping.  
Most of the members of NACIS (if  
not all) have been touched one  
way or another by Dr. Sherman's  
contributions. We, the co-editors of  
this special issue, had the great  
fortune of either working with Dr.  
Sherman (Greg Chu's Census  
Mapping Workshop at Honolulu  
in 1978) or studying under him  
(Barbara Buttenfield's Ph.D.  
program). Greg also received his  
Ph.D. degree under the direction  
of one of Dr. Sherman's students,  
Everett Wingert of the University  
of Hawaii. It is with great pleasure  
that we were charged with the

duties of editing this special issue  
in honor of a great professor,  
cartographer, and warm-hearted  
person. We also wish to thank Dr.  
Arthur Robinson for his contribu-  
tion to this tribute, Betty Wheeler  
for her efforts in copy-editing, and  
the North American Cartographic  
Information Society for dedicating  
this issue to a special cartographer.

Gregory Chu

University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse

Barbara Buttenfield

University of Colorado

**NEW NACIS WEB SITE**  
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*about the cover*



The images for the cover were supplied  
by Eugene Turner at the Department of  
Geography, University of California-  
Northridge. The topographic map is a  
portion of the 1:24,000 topo for  
Washington, D.C. The other two images  
are a standard topo with a raised tactual  
image embossed into it and a second  
version with a partially-sighted image  
(black and white) with a raised tactual  
image embossed into it. The maps were  
produced by John C. Sherman in a  
project sponsored by the U.S. Geological  
Survey in 1976. They were printed by  
the USDA and DMA-TC.

The cover design was created by Louis  
Cross III, a cartographer with the  
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University.

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