

**Early cartographic visualization:
multimedia representations in the history of cartography**

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Modern cartography can be defined as the unique discipline dealing with spatial images of the geographical reality. Maps are very powerful tools of representation, are available fundamentally in visual form. The emerging cognitive field, especially cartographic visualization is the central concept of cartography in the digital era.

Many experimental research work has been done to develop display techniques in a computer environment. However, these important advancements were based on the possibilities offered by the new computer technology and much less attention was drawn on the cognitive aspects of cartography. From this point of view, the study of the history of cartography is essential, because it shows the roots and different forms of cartographic representation techniques, and also the development of the mental processing of the images.

It has been generally accepted that cartography is and has always been multimedia. The spatial organization of the cartographic images can be the basis for combining the map graphic with other means of communication. The presentation discusses some historic examples where cartographic information was communicated in more parallel channels. A slide show to be presented to demonstrate the interconnections between technology and map making, the technological and social contexts of the discipline.