



In Search of Eldorado

Link to the Eldorado Song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VczD1olutQ8>



Hello to Family & Friends

As I exited the RV this morning a little after seven, a security guard pulled up in a car and told me I was not supposed to park in the lots until after 7:00. Before 7:00 I am supposed to park on the street. I am SUPPOSED to park on the street? Yup. How do you like that.

Did you ever see a bird floating on the wind and wonder what it would be like to be able to fly? I have. I wanted to be at the Gliderport above by 9:00 to sign up for a tandem parasailing flight. The closest to flying like a bird I will ever get.

A look at Google told me I-5 would take 40 minutes due to a thirteen minute traffic delay, so I laid out my own route and took 40 minutes to get there. Oh well.

Tina told me the winds don't usually pick up enough until after noon, so I told her I would do my museums first and be back later. She will call me if the winds are favorable.

Since the museum and the bird sanctuary don't open until eleven, I took the advice of the ladies at the Frustrated Cowboy yesterday, and took a walk on the beach at Del Mar. Photo below.

Day 41
Wednesday,
February 12th

Del Mar
And
La Jolla

Weather
50's to 60's Sunny

In Search of Eldorado

By Edgar Allan Poe

Gaily bedight,
A gallant knight,
In sunshine and in shadow,
Had journeyed long,
Singing a song,
In search of Eldorado.

But he grew old—
This knight so bold—
And o'er his heart a shadow—
Fell as he found
No spot of ground
That looked like Eldorado.

And, as his strength
Failed him at length,
He met a pilgrim shadow—
'Shadow,' said he,
'Where can it be—
This land of Eldorado?'

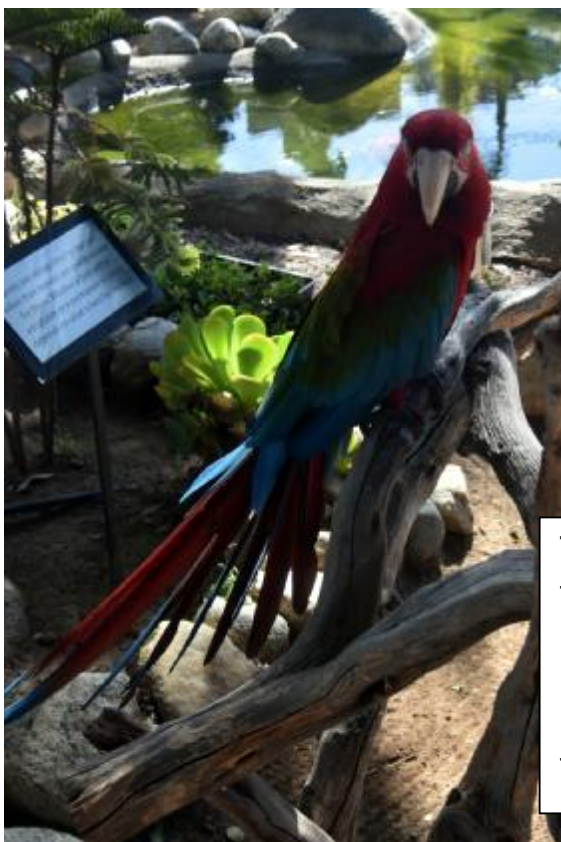
'Over the Mountains
Of the Moon,
Down the Valley of the Shadow,
Ride, boldly ride,'
The shade replied,—
'If you seek for Eldorado!'



From here it was just a short drive to Free Flight



Free Flight is a sanctuary for birds that the owners no longer want or can't take care of. Most of them parrots, the public is free to touch, handle, pick up, talk to, dance with and pretty much make a fool of yourself, with the birds.



The colors are amazing. I tried to pet a few but they always seemed to want to bite me instead. Then I would watch one of the handlers walk up and just start scratching a head or push an arm against their legs to make them step on. I guess you get used to it.



This one does not like men, only women.



This guy was showing off quite a bit. He's in a cage because he bites.



This is Obi (not sure of the spelling). He's 71 years old and she said he was in a TV series, but she wasn't sure which one. Dredging my memory I came up with BARETTA in quick order and mentioned it. That's the one, she said. I did a quick search and found that the BARETTA bird was named Fred, but that there were three birds which acted on the show. So, Obi could be one of them.



Giving me the evil eye, then posing for the camera. Again, the colors are amazing.



Quite the clown.

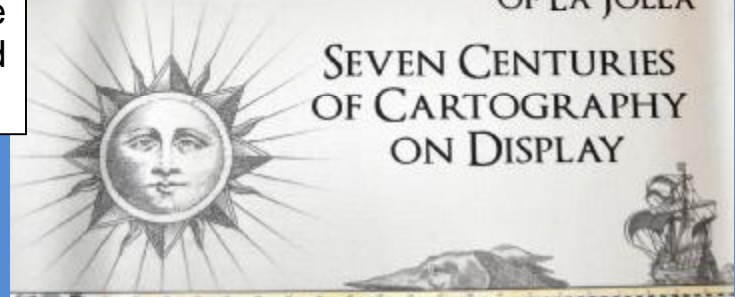
It was an interesting place, very small, maybe 75x75 feet. Lots of empty cages had been donated. It was only \$7. I gave them \$10.

If you like maps, which I do, prepare to be amazed. Even if you don't care about maps you'll be amazed. And this museum is free.

MAP & ATLAS MUSEUM

OF LA JOLLA

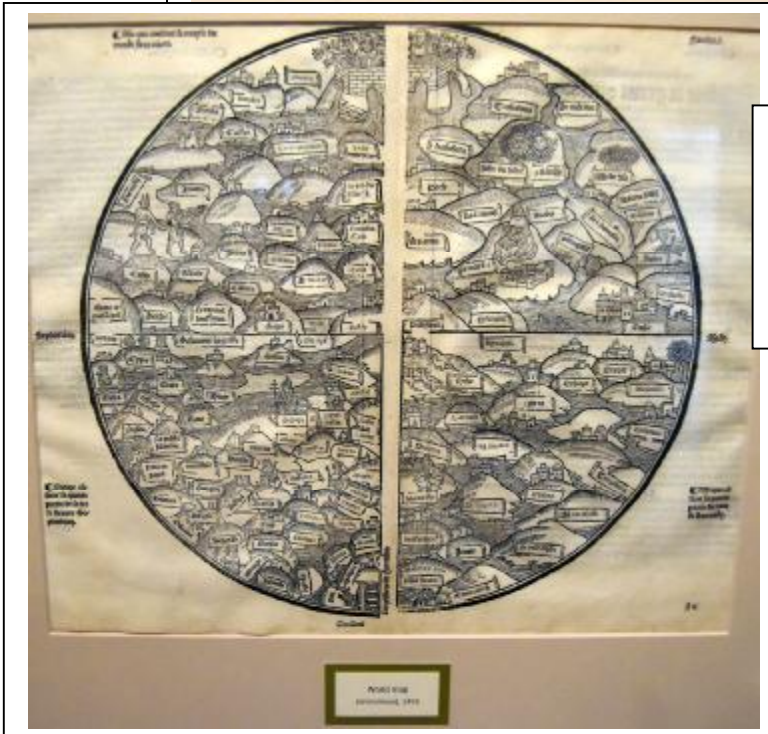
SEVEN CENTURIES
OF CARTOGRAPHY
ON DISPLAY



San Diego: Folsom Brothers, Display Case, ca. 1900

Traveling display case used by Folsom Brothers of San Diego as a promotional prop for their land sales agents.

This traveling display case was used by the Folsom Brothers, San Diego Real Estate promoters in the late 19th and early 20th Century, as a promotional prop for their land sales agents.

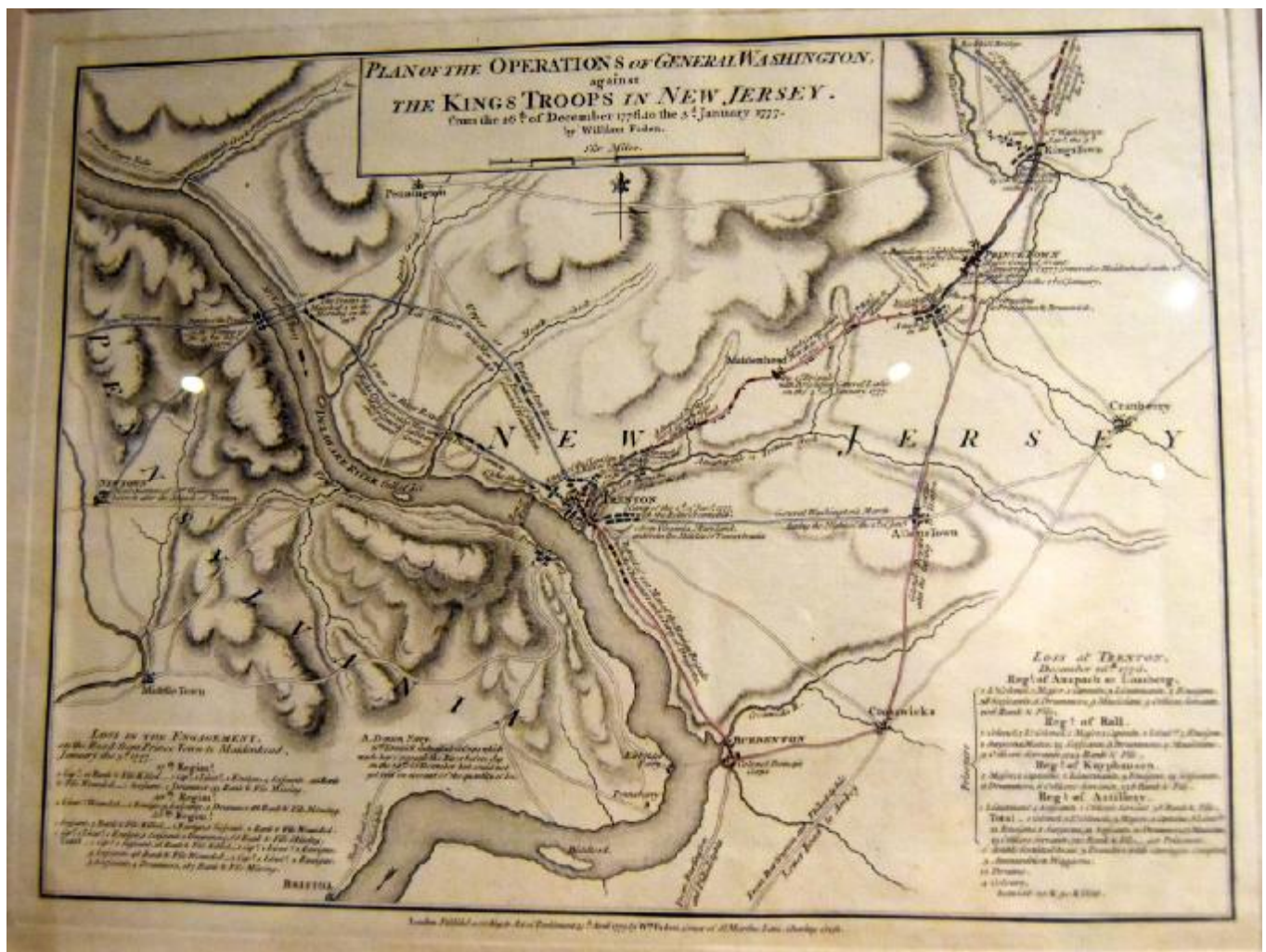


Just in case you can't read the caption, this is a world map, original, from 1491, almost 530 years old. The year before Columbus landed in America.



Darn, I forgot to look at the year of this one, probably the early 1600's, maybe earlier. Look at Florida and the Great Lakes. Lake Michigan is named ILLI NOVEK. Nothing west of the Mississippi.





New Jersey and Pennsylvania, William Faden, 1777

Plan of the Operations of General Washington, against the Kings Troops in New Jersey. From the 26th of December 1776, to the 3^d of January 1777. by William Faden. (April 15, 1777). Copperplate engraving.

Published on April 15 of 1777, this map records events in the colonies through January 3, just two and a half months earlier. Though the title refers to operations from December 26, the map begins with Washington's risky crossing of the Delaware on Christmas night.

The setting, as Washington set out, was bleak: the Continental Army had dwindled to less than 5,000 men, the enlistments of more than two-thirds of those expired at the end of the year, and the Revolutionary cause had suffered significant defeats. Thus the stakes were high when Washington led his troops across the icy Delaware on the night of December 25, 1776, on his difficult and risky plan. The next day they took Trenton, capturing almost a thousand Hessians (German troops hired by Britain), then crossed the river back to Pennsylvania with the prisoners and the enemy troops' military stores. On January 3, Washington repeated his success: Charles Cornwallis came to retake Trenton, but Washington defeated his troops at the Battle of Princeton.

This brief, but pivotal, episode in the Revolutionary War is documented in Faden's map.

The story is almost better than the map itself.



I wish they used some non-reflective glass.

North America, Hermann Moll, 1720

To the Right Honourable John Lord Sommers... this Map of North America according to ye Newest and Most Exact Observations is Most Humbly Dedicated by Herman Moll Geographer. From The World Described: or a New and Correct Set of Maps...

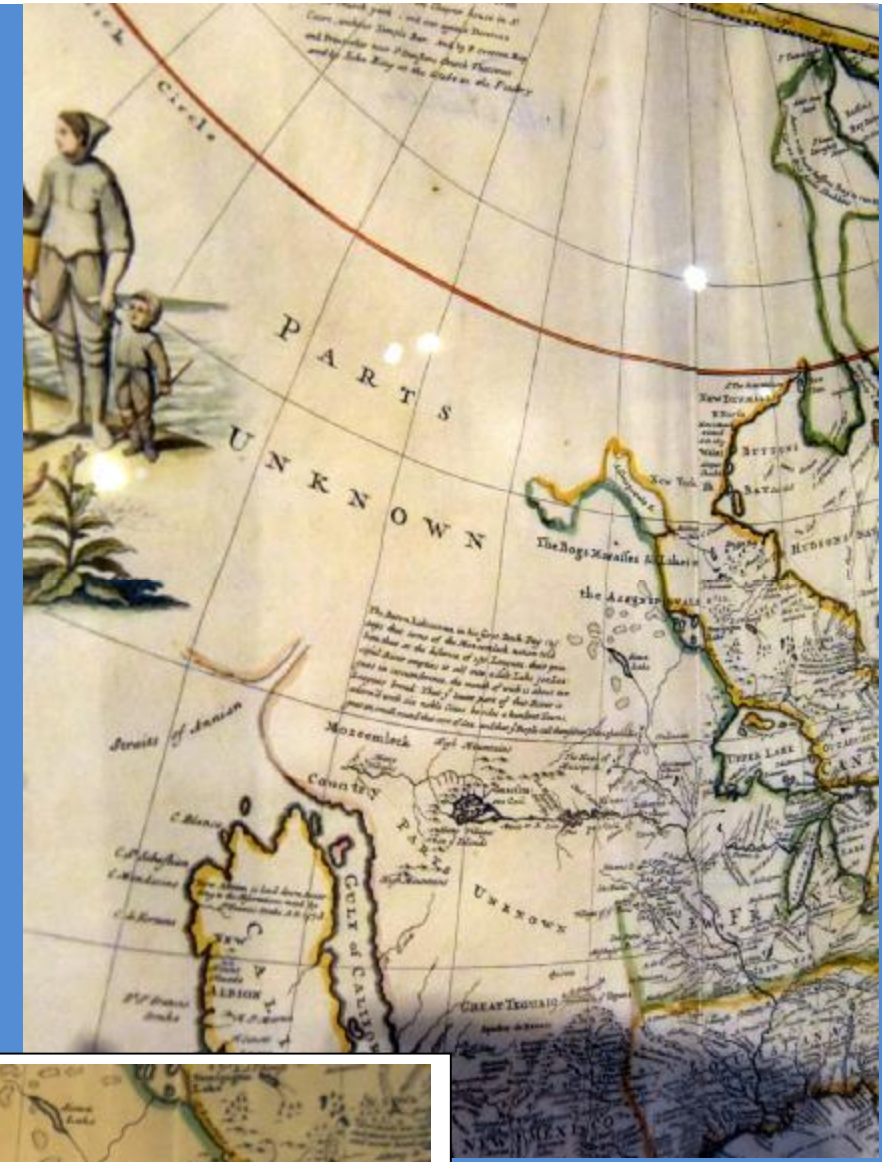
The virile fishing grounds of northeast North America were a primary lure for Europeans to the New World. More than three centuries after Europeans are known to have been crossing the northern Atlantic for *bacalao*, this map's large view testifies that cod fishing in the northeast remained strong: "A View of a Stage & also of ye manner of Fishing for, Curing & Drying Cod at New Found Land..."

California remains an island on Sanson's second model (1656), despite Father Kino's evidence, published two decades earlier, that it is a part of the mainland.

Moll, who used his maps to support English colonial claims, did not miss the opportunity to record Drake's claimed precedence in the Northwest. On the northern end of the California island itself, Moll places an inscription stating that "New Albion" has been laid down according to Drake's 1578 landfall.


Take a look both north and west of Texas, or where Texas will eventually be, the map is blank. There's a close-up of that area below.

Parts Unknown. Fantastic! As it says above, California is still depicted as an island. And take a look below at the California area.



The Gulf of California, between the Baja Peninsula and mainland Mexico is also named the RED SEA. That would make the Baja Peninsula Egypt, still half a world away.

Michael Stone is the founder of Westwind Investors LP, a private investment firm. His hobby of 20 years has turned into the largest map museum west of the Mississippi.

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MAP & ATLAS MUSEUM
of LA JOLLA

PICTORIAL ROOM COLLECTION

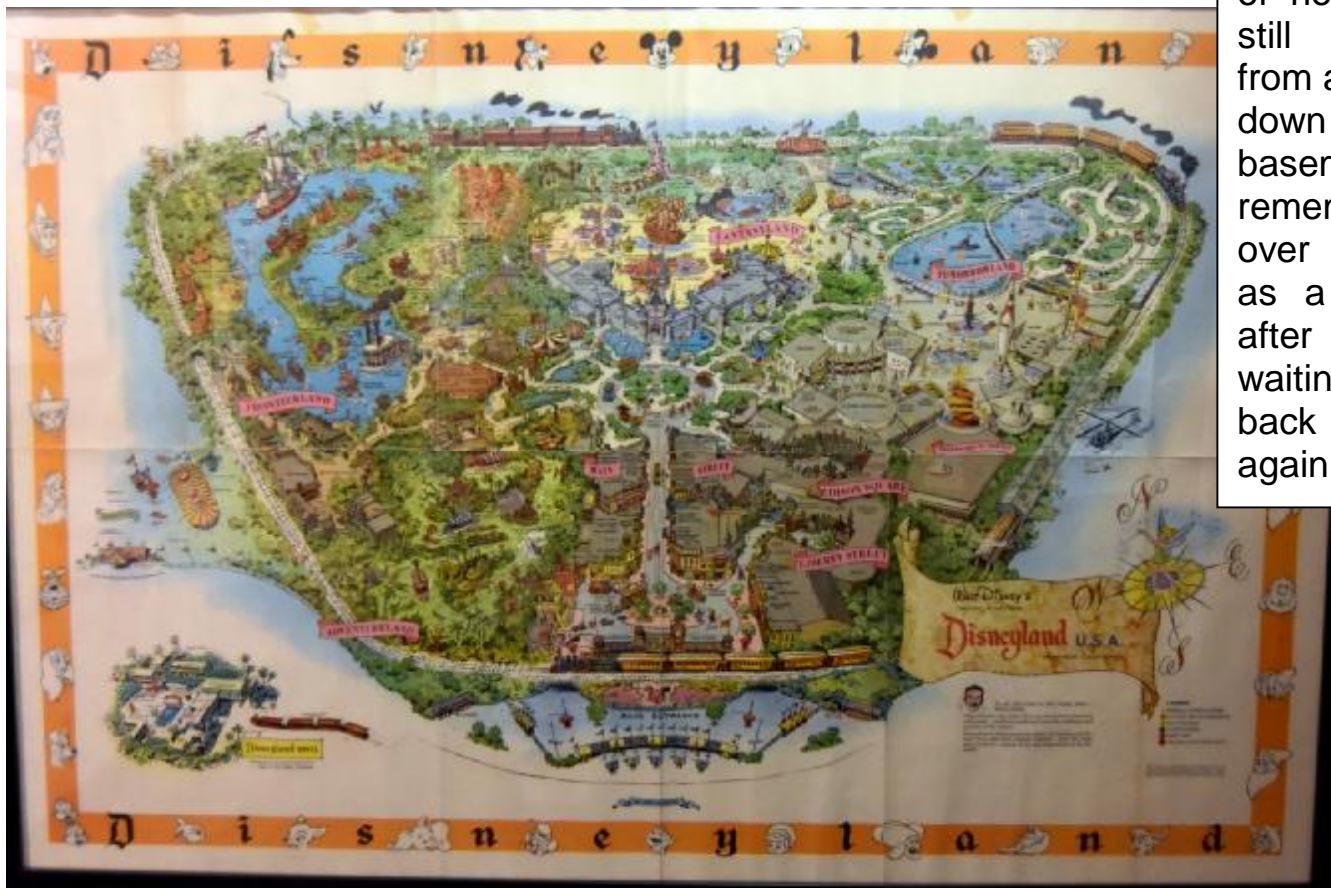
On exhibit is a selection of pictorial maps from Museum Founder Mr. Michael Stone's collection.

The majority of items on display are by American artists and cartographers.

However, no exhibit would be complete without at least one map by the renowned British artist MacDonald Gill.

The artists bios and map descriptions follow the exhibit from the Disneyland Map counter-clock-wise to Michael Reagans' sketches in the display case.

This Disneyland map is from 1958. Believe it or not, I think I still have one from about 1966 down in the basement. I remember going over this map as a kid, year after year, waiting to get back there again.





This is not even two full walls of this pictorial room collection.

This is fascinating!

The San Zeno Astrolabe

VOLVELLE ASTRONOMICAL CALENDAR

Verona, cloister of San Zeno; c.1455

Ink and polychromy on wood and vellum.

A unique calendar, and the only object of its type to have survived from the Middle Ages.

Wall mounted and hanging for over three centuries in the cloister of the Benedictine abbey of San Zeno, Verona, it was the primary timekeeper for the monks who saw and used it daily to organize their devotional schedule. Its three dials can be rotated by hand and chart the phases of the moon, the zodiacal calendar of the stars, the amount of daylight occurring in any given day of the year, and the feast days and times of the Saints to whom the monks intended to pray



The disc is about 4 feet in diameter.



Close up you can see the three distinct rings, the peg to rotate the discs and some of the printing. Anybody read Italian?



This is just a portion of one of the maps of the Mediterranean. Many of the important cities have their own colorful sketch – Lisbon (Lisbon, Portugal), Carthagene (Cartegena, Spain), Cadix (Cadiz, Spain), Gibraltar, Tenerife, Carachico. And just look at how vibrant the colors still are after 400 or 500 years. What a piece of artwork. A piece of history.

I walked around downtown La Jolla a little bit, enjoyed an art gallery where the owner, sounded like from Eastern Europe, had been in business right there for 27 years.



I hadn't heard anything from Tina so I drove back to the Gliderport and took a seat out on the lawn. There were two tandem flights that took to the air, but they were only flying very light people, under 130 pounds (I don't qualify), because of the light winds.

I put my name on the list for tomorrow, but the forecast is for light winds again. I told Tina about the Map Museum since she expressed an interest in maps when I was there in the morning. She never knew there was a Map Museum in La Jolla.

Tina also knows Katelyn, the first mate on both of my Hornblower Cruises in San Diego.

Hopefully Tina will give me a call tomorrow that the winds have picked up and I will get to fly.

The Map Museum was a super highlight. I didn't even know it existed, it was not on my itinerary. I may have mentioned, that when I was searching Google for parking the other night, I noticed the Map Museum and researched it. I am 1000% glad I did. I could have taken 100's of pictures for you in the hour+ I spent there, but they would only interest someone who has the same obsession with maps that I do.

I made a short search for parking and found a spot in a light industrial park again. Worked out great.

Until next time....