

# Habsburg / Austro Hungarian Maps at the University of Alberta

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William C. Wonders Map Collection (<http://www.library.ualberta.ca/subject/maps/index.cfm>)

## Alberta's Central European Heritage



Canadian immigration policy fostered the migration of Central Europeans to fill the empty country and to cultivate the fertile soil in an environment similar to the Steppes of central Europe. This map from the *Atlas of Alberta* illustrates the predominant ethnic origin of settlers to this region. As late as 1961, the clustering of ethnic groups was still very evident.



The Star Colony was an area east of Edmonton, settled in the early 1900s. Many local names reflect the Ukrainian roots of the settlers. This portion of a map of the Star Colony typifies the use of Ukrainian place names.

## The William C. Wonders Map Collection



The map collection was formed in 1966 by Dr. William C. Wonders, chair of the University of Alberta Department of Geography. The collection's first curator was Hugo Stibbe (1966-73).



Ron Whistance-Smith (pictured above) took over curatorship in 1973 and held the post until 1993. In the mid-1990s the collection was transferred from the Department of Geography to the Science and Technology Library.

The collection has grown to become the largest academic map collection in Canada. Its major areas of strength include Western and Northern Canada, Central and Eastern Europe, and the British Isles. The collection includes over 550,000 maps, 15,000 microforms, 5500 atlases, and 1.5 million air photos.

## Cartobibliographic Access to the Wonders Collection



Initially, items in the collection were recorded in a handwritten classified catalogue, filed in a set of binders.

The William C. Wonders Map Collection Database

Details	
ISBC#	Number
17777AAB-0243	
Location	U of A - Science and Technology Library
Call Number	17777AAB-0243
Title	Novus Atlas Poloniae, Hungariae, Romaniaae, Sive, Palaestinae ac Confines exacte delineatus per G. Le Vasseur de Beaulieu
Scale	1:4,000,000
Place	Normanville (Quebec) ;
Publisher	Jacob Savary, socius.
Publication Date	ca. 1885.
Subject	Poland--Historical geography.
Note	Page of history collection item 21.

In 1995 the handwritten catalogue was closed and a project began to create a searchable database. The William C. Wonders Map Collection Database (<http://maps.library.ualberta.ca>) now provides the main access point for pre-1995 materials. Post-1995 materials are available through the library's online catalogue.

## Future Developments

XML Record

User Display

Novus Atlas Poloniae, Hungariae, Romaniaae, Sive, Palaestinae ac Confines exacte delineatus per G. Le Vasseur de Beaulieu

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The library is developing a cartobibliography of its Habsburg / Austro Hungarian holdings. Each map will be described in a MODS XML record, and these records will be stored in a native XML database. XSL transformations allow patrons to browse these holdings easily via the Internet, and each record will be linked to a digitized image of the map described, including a high resolution image available for download.



The Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies (<http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/CCAUCES>)  
Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (<http://www.library.ualberta.ca/CIUS>)  
University of Alberta Libraries (<http://www.library.ualberta.ca>)