

University of Southern Maine ANE 633 [GEO 450]

# THE MAPPING OF NEW ENGLAND

Matthew H. Edney

Osher Chair in the History of Cartography

Spring 2009



## PAPER 3: PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER: THE COMBINED TEXTUAL AND CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS OF A MAP

### TASK

The task of the first paper was to examine in detail the content of a map, from a semiotic perspective — precisely what does the map show (or not show), and how does the map show it? — in order to explore the meaning of a map. The second paper considered the context in which the map was made and read: who made it; what kinds of people would/might have read it; what larger discourses would the map have been part of? The task of the final paper is to combine the two, so as to undertake a complete analysis of a map. The fundamental purpose is to get at the why question: why was the map made and read? Put in a different way, what did the map mean to the people who commissioned it, who made it, and who read it? What does the map say about the contemporary understanding of places or spaces?

The subject map will be one of the maps already used for the previous topics. In effect, the task of the final paper is take a previous paper and extend it to encompass the missing half.

The final paper should be ten to twelve pages in length. Please use a cover page. Feel free to use any appendices you might wish to use (although this is not expected). You should attach copies of any images to which you refer, including the subject map.

### FEEDBACK

I will be out-of-town from 21 through 26 April. I will be checking email regularly in the meantime, so feel free to email me any questions you might have about the project: edney@usm.maine.edu or edney@wisc.edu.

### EVALUATION

Students will be evaluated according to the completeness and logicity of their analysis. Consideration will also be paid to grammar, style, etc. Overall, this paper is worth 35% of the total course grade.

### DUE

The papers are due in class on 11 May 2009.