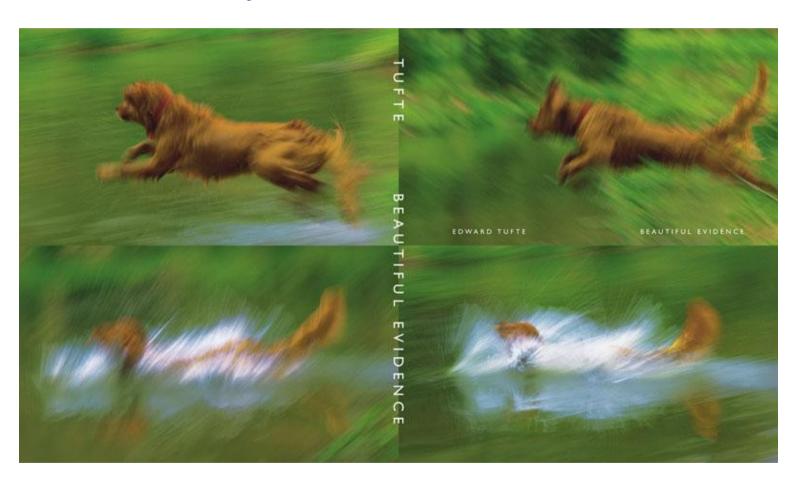
Beautiful Evidence by Edward Tufte



Harriet King, CS 5090: Data Visualization (November 11, 2010)



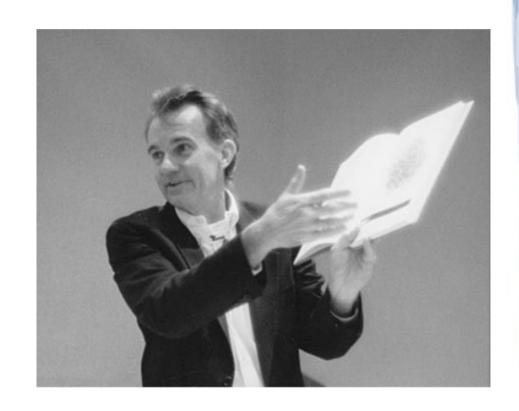
[Chapter One] Mapped Pictures: Images as Evidence and Explanation

Presentation Outline

- Brief Biography
- About the Book
- About the Chapter: Mapped Pictures
- Examples of Mapped Pictures
- Conclusion
- Sources

Edward R. Tufte

- Born 1942 in Missouri
- Beverly Hills High School
- Stanford BS and MS in Statistics
- Yale PhD Political Science (1968)
- Yale Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Statistics, and Computer Science
- Landscape Sculptor



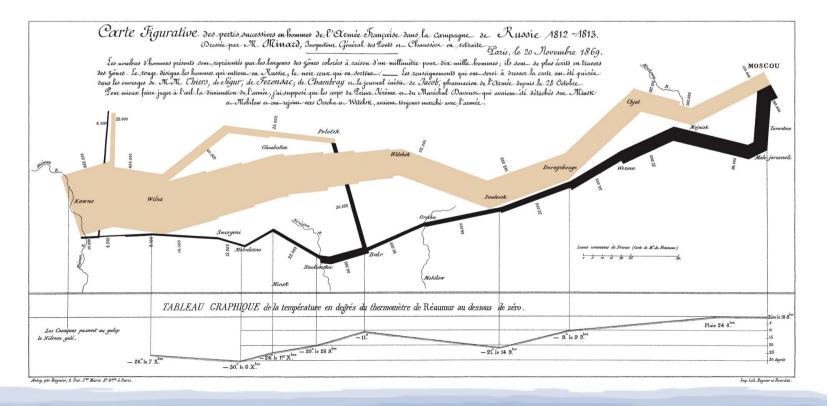
Analytical Design Theorist



- "Leonardo da Vinci of Data" (NY Times)
- "Galileo of graphics" (Business Week)
- 1975 Princeton seminars on statistics to journalists
- Self Published 1983 gave him freedom
- Statistical evidence and scientific visualization

Seeing & Thinking Intensified

"A big intellectual move in my work and my teaching came together in [1990 book]... It essentially opened the entire world of visual evidence up so evidence was *no longer statistical graphics* – it was the whole world of seeing and thinking, bringing together how seeing and therefore thinking could be intensified." (Tufte)



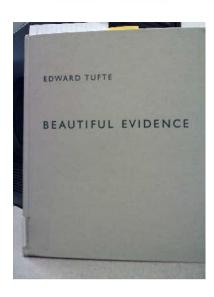
Example of Book's Variety



Edward Tufte, "Dear Leader I" and "Millstones 5 and 6", 2003-2004 (mild steel, diameter 13"8" or 4.2 meters)

Beautiful Evidence's Contents

- 1) Mapped Pictures: Images as Evidence and Explanation
- 2) Sparklines: Intense, Simple, Word-Sized Graphics
- 3) Links and Causal Arrows: Ambiguity in Action
- 4) Words, Numbers, Images Together
- 5) The Fundamental Principles of Analytical Design
- 6) Corruption in Evidence Presentations: Effects Without Causes, Cherry Picking, Overreaching, Chartjunk, and the Rage to Conclude
- 7) The Cognitive Style of PowerPoint: Pitching Out Corrupts Within
- 8) Sculptural Pedestals: Meaning, Practice, Depedestalization
- 9) Landscape Sculptures



Book's Themes

Valid data visualizations turn seeing into showing

For both producers and consumers

- Evidence presentation is ethical and intellectual act
- Must understand and reason about evidence

Meaning of "Beautiful Evidence"

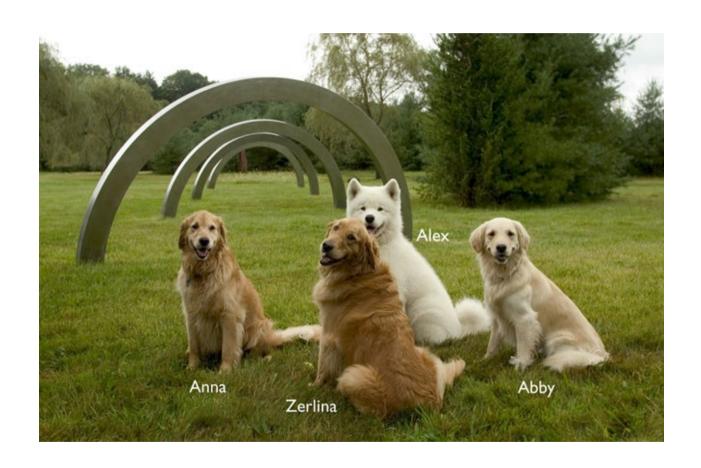
- Beautiful beyond being proof
- Used to judge quality, relevance, integrity
- Science and art share intense observing



[chapter 1]

Mapped Pictures: Images as Evidence and Explanation

A Mapped Picture



Edward Tufte, Spring Arcs (2004) solid stainless steel, arc diameter 12 feet

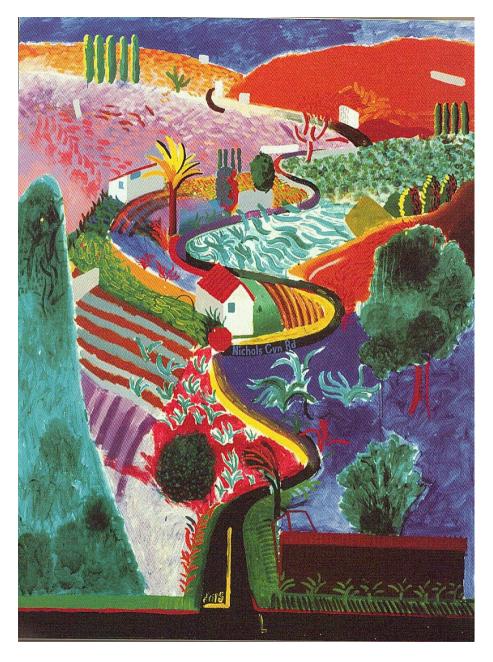
What are "Mapped Pictures"?

- Detailed annotations on images
- Credible
- Quantified
- Contextualized
- Clear Scale

Why Mapped Pictures?

Purpose:

- To present, explain, or document
- Mappings tell why an image matters

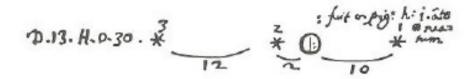


Minimal Mapping

- Stop sign
- Street sign
- Basic relative scale

David Hockney, Nichols Canyon (1980) acrylic on canvas

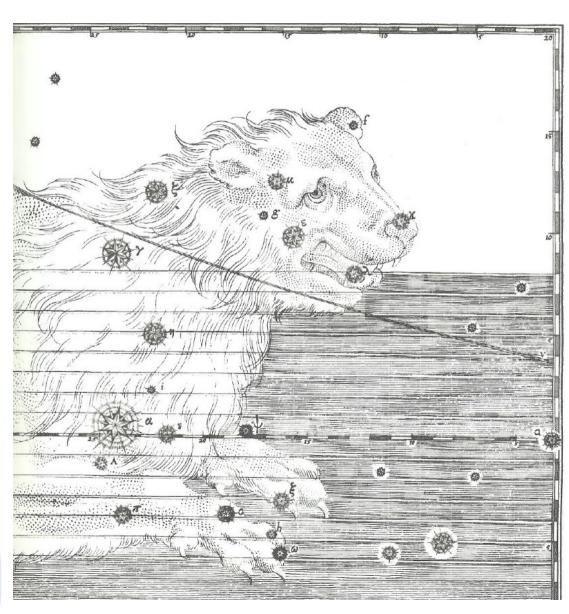
Notations as Evidence



Galileo's drawing (1610)

- Scaled and annotated
- "credible quantitative evidence"

Notations as Evidence



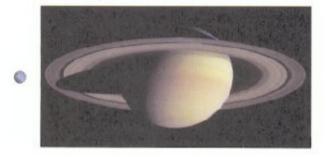
Bayer's sky drawing

- Measured star strength
- Located on the grid
- Gives context
- Unknown filled with Leo the star myth

Johann Bayer, Uranometria (Augsburg, 1603)

"unscaled and dequantified"

Problem with scientific deep space photos of today



Scale and Location

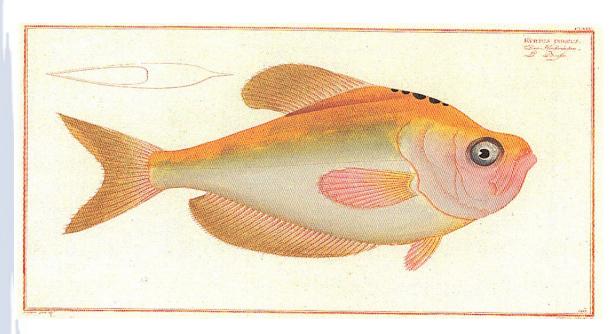
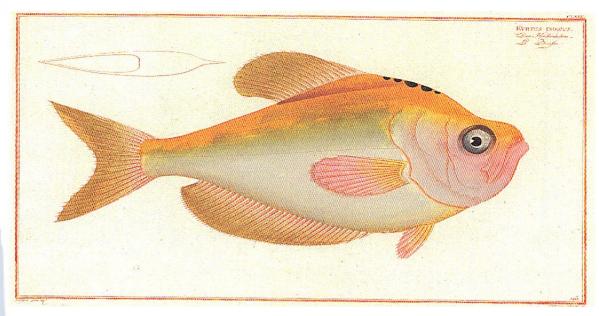


Figure 1: Marcus Bloch, *Ichthyologie, our Histoire Naturelle Generale et Particuliere des Poissons* (1795)

Problem:

- No scale given
- Same size
- Cross section location missing

Problem Solved



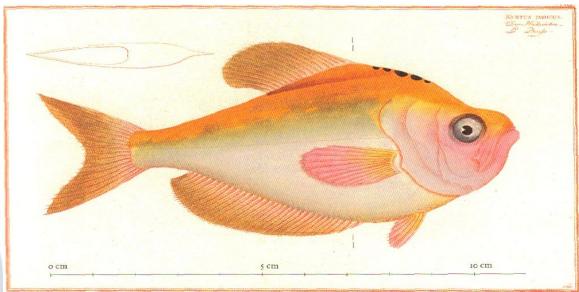
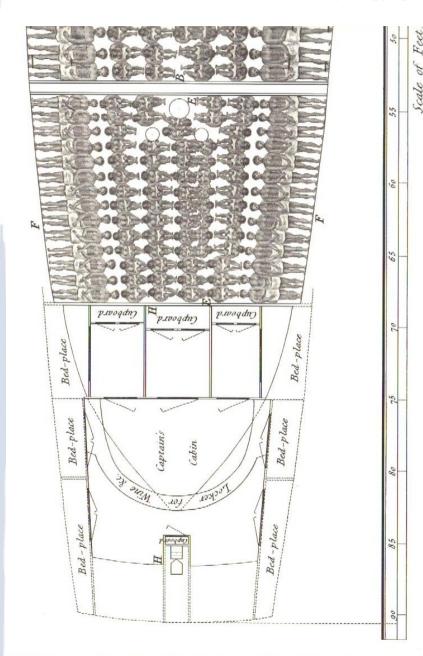


Figure 1: Marcus Bloch, *Ichthyologie, our Histoire Naturelle Generale et Particuliere des Poissons* (1795)

Solution:

- Give scale bar
- Add cross section mark

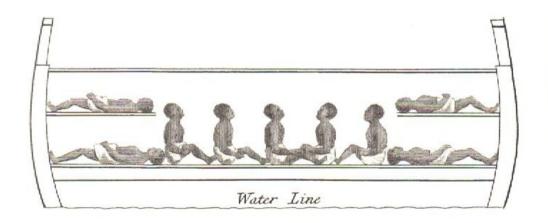
Evidence Because:



- Credible precision
- Engineering diagram

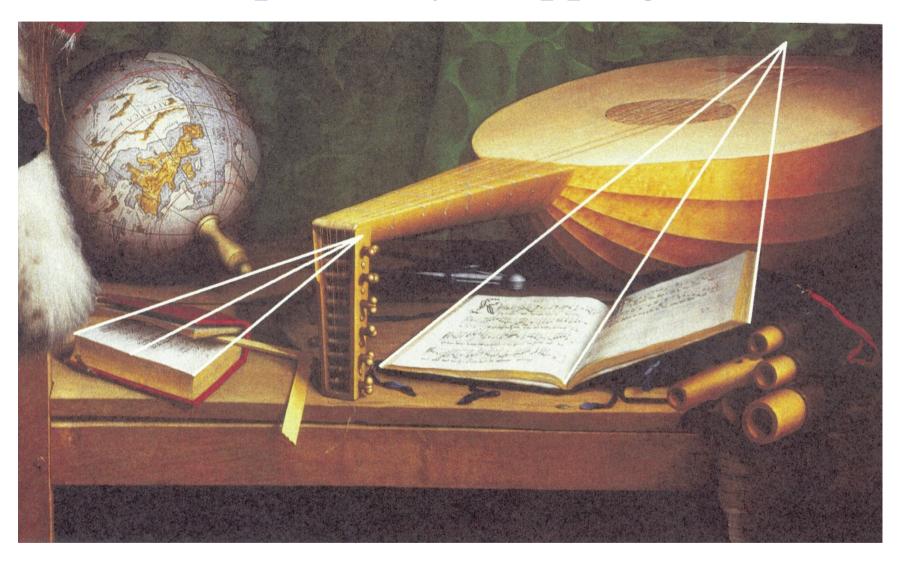
Proves:

Humans as a commodity (347)



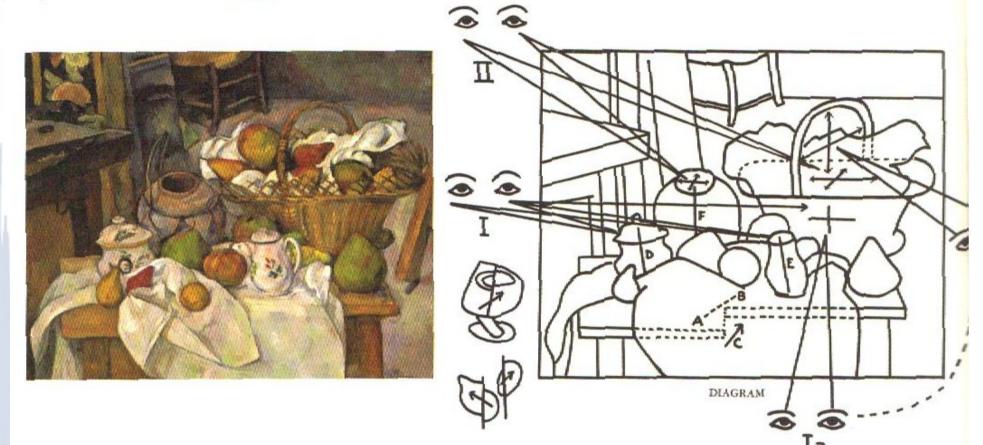
Published for the Religious Society of Friends in London, Case of The Vigilante, A Ship Employed in the Slave-Trade (1823)

Explanatory Mappings



Hans Holbein the Younger, *The Ambassadors* (detail, 1533), Mapped by David Hockney, *Secret Knowledge: Rediscovering the Lost Techniques of the Old Masters* (London, 2001)

Explanatory Mappings



Paul Cezanne, *Still Life With a Basket (Kitchen Table)* (1890-95) oil on canvas, Musée d'Orsay, Paris

Erle Loran, Cezanne's Composition: Analysis of His Form with Diagrams and Photographs of His Motifs (1943)

- Various points of view
- Side by side vs. overlay

Explanatory Mappings Annoy Artists

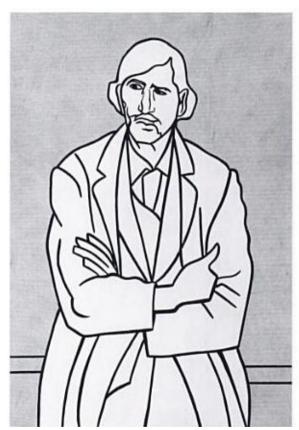


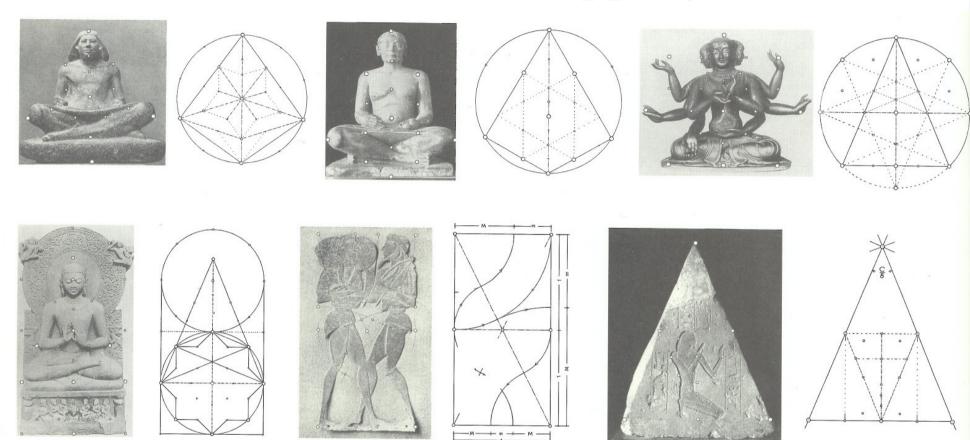


Figure 98. Erle Loran, diagram from Cézanne's Composition (1943)

- Lichtenstein's response to Loran
- Irony that the satire of the diagrammed analysis ends up museum quality art
- Response: "Pop Artists or Copy Cats"

Roy Lichtenstein, *Man with Folded Arms*, 1962, oil on canvas, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles

After the fact mappings



Ernst Mossel, Vom Geheimnis der Form und der Urform des Seins (Stuttgart, 1938)

- Claim of universal structure beneath all art
- Not valid as evidence

Capturing Time in 2-d

I'. Mouvement.

Quatre en avant par deux coupés et Rigaudon en arriere.

2º Mt.

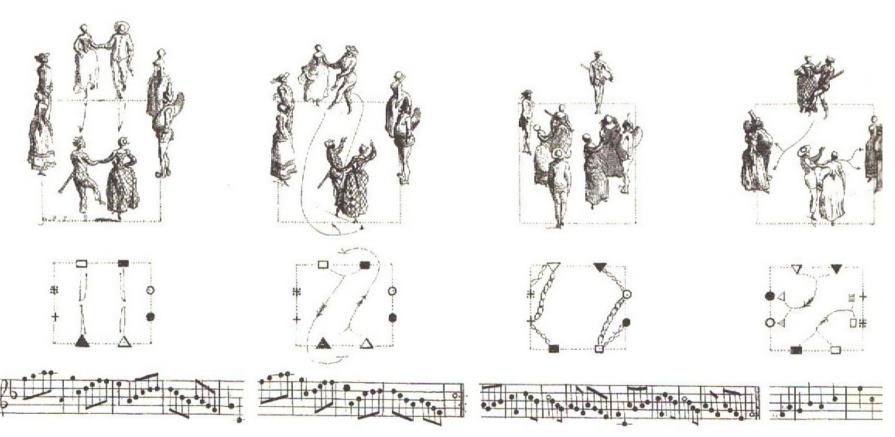
Les mêmes changent de places avec ceux de vis-à vis

FIGURE DE LA GRL

3. M.

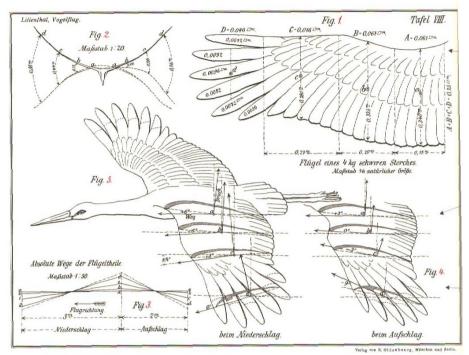
La Petite Chaine sur les côtés , puis les 4 autres figurans font à leur tour la même figure que ceux-cy viennent de faire aux 1er 2e et 3e Mouvem^t. 4. Mt.

Les 4 qui ont agi les pr vont figurer vis-àvis ceux droite



La Cuisse, Le Repertoire des bals ou theorie-pratique des contredanses decrites d'une maniere aisee avec des figures demonstratives pour les pouvoir danser facilement (1762, Paris)

Coherent multiple viewpoint

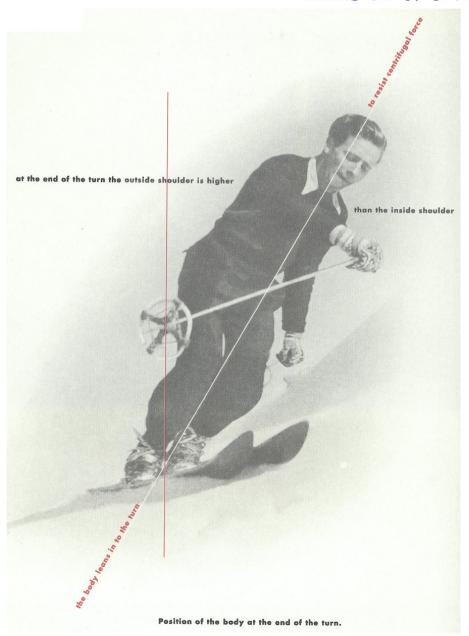




Otto Lilienthal, *Der Vogelflug als Grundlage dr Fliegekunst* (1889, Munich and Berlin)

- Investigation of bird anatomy and flight
- Goal of constructing gliders
- Quantitative scale
- Cambered airfoil cross section
- Shifting angles as flapping wings torque
- Linked and oriented (a,b,c)
- Side view flying left

Instruction



- Diagram & text overlaid on image
- Content documentation and fluent art
- Words double as horizontal line

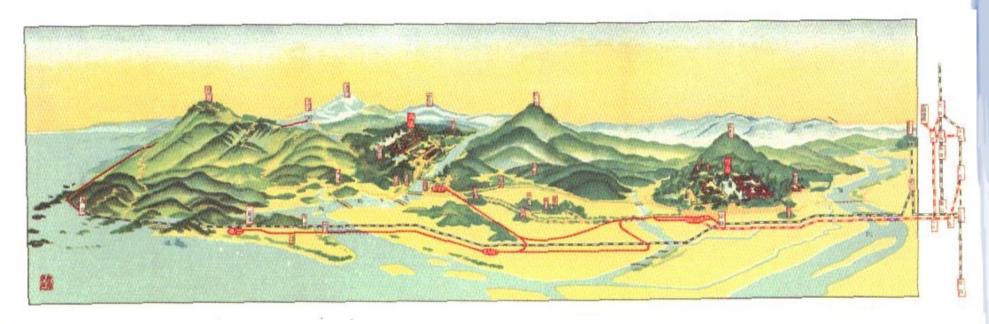
Emile Allais, How to Ski by the French Method (Paris, 1947)

Multiple Views



St. Kirill of Belozersk with scenes from his life, silk cloth, early 16th century

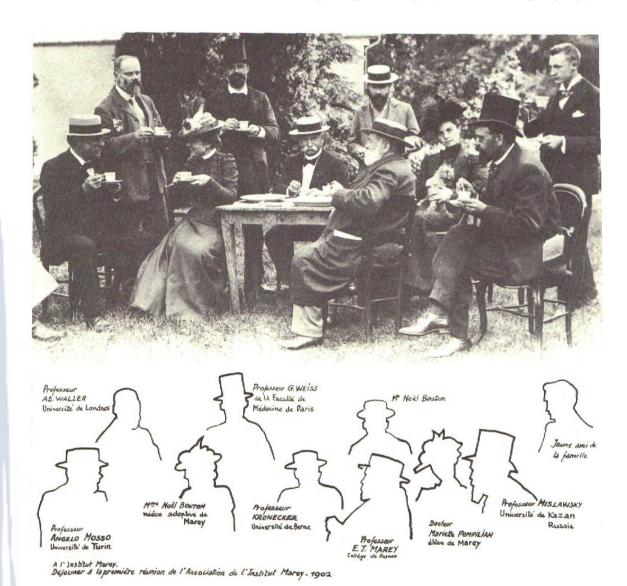
Contextualizing



Guide for Visitors to Ise Shrine (Ise, Japan, 1948-1954)

Local detail and whole country in context

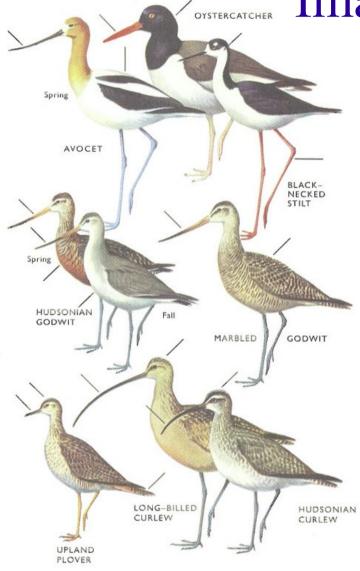
Historical Documents



- Detailed diagram in parallel
- Original not disturbed
- Affiliations and names document the history
- Avoid "dreaded letter code"

Marta Braun, "The Photographic Work of E. J. Marey", *Studies in Visual Communication* (1983) photo: 1902

Images can map other images



Roger Tory Peterson, A Field Guide to the Birds (Boston, 1934, 1939, 1947), plate 23, shore-birds.

- Relative scale
- Easy to compare
- Lines directing attention
- Needs a universal grid or measurement scale

Conclusion: Mappings tell why the image matters

Well designed, thoughtfully mapped images combine:

- Direct visual evidence
- Power of diagrams

Most explanatory & evidential images should be mapped

- Including scale and context
- High standards for mappings as any evidence

Sources page 1

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Questions? Comments...