In 1839 Arago presented photography for the first time to the French academy of sciences. 19 years later, Albrecht Meydenbauer, a young architect, had the idea to use photographic images for the documentation of buildings. From this moment he worked with great enthusiasm for the technical realization of his idea, and he fought against many obstacles for its acceptance as a documentation method. Meydenbauer was aware of upcoming risks for cultural objects. He was convinced that the most important cultural heritage objects should be recorded in such a way that they could even be reconstructed in cases of destruction.

In recent times the prime interest in imagery has shifted from mere documentation towards image analysis and manipulation as well as to optical illusions.

International scientists from several different disciplines meet in Berne to discuss their research which is partly or even completely based on the analysis of historical data, i.e. imagery, maps or city models. A wide variety of topics from Archaeology, Geodesy, Geomorphology, History, and other disciplines are presented in four thematic blocks tied together by the use of similar data sources and analysis methods. The interdisciplinary approach allows to present potential data sources (archives), to learn about analysis of available data (imagery, maps, city models, etc.) and to understand for what kind of research questions historic data may be utilized.

International Congress
Friday, 28th until Sunday 30th November
University of Berne

Doris Amacher
Guided tour to the Meydenbauer cameras
Eidgenössisches Archiv für Denkmalpflege
Meeting point: Conference Desk, Institute of Geological Sciences, Baltzerstrasse 3, Friday, 28th 15.00
Cost: 5 CHF (for public transportation)

Prof. em. Dr. Jörg Albertz
Bilder als historische Dokumente
Albrecht Meydenbauer
als Pionier der Denkmalpflege
Public opening lecture (free Admission)
Friday, November 28th at 18.30:
University main building, „Kuppelsaal”

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Historic maps and imagery
for modern scientific applications

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Organizers
Dirk Rieke-Zapp, Ralph Rosenbauer, Susanne Rutishauser and Heidi Haas, University of Berne
Alexander Reiterer, Vienna University of Technology

Contact
info.maps@lists.unibe.ch
Saturday, 29th November 2008

08.45 – 09.00  F. Schlunegger / D. Rieke-Zapp
Welcome Address

Block 1: Architecture and urbanistic studies
(chair: M. Seifert, University of Bern)

09.00 – 09.30  H.-J. Pryzbilla
Aufbau historischer städtischer 3D-Szenarien am Beispiel der mittelalterlichen Stadt Duisburg

09.35 – 09.50  S. Nebiker, A. Barmettler
3D Reconstruction of the City of Solothurn in 1820 based on a historical city model

09.55 – 10.10  A. Kirchhoff, J. Mülder, Ph. Paar, Chr. Wetz, L. Bormann
The Palmwood of Jericho - Virtual Reconstruction of Herod’s Third Winter Palace and Oasis

10.15 – 10.45  Coffee break

10.45 – 11.00  M. De Franceschini
Ancient and modern Plans in Hadrian’s Villa near Tivoli, Rome

11.05 – 11.20  G. Siedler, G. Sacher, S. Vetter
Photogrammetric Evaluation of historical Images in case of the Castle of Potsdam and the new Palais in Dresden

11.25 – 11.40  F. Henze, H. Lehmann
Analysis of historical maps and images for research on urban development of Baalbeck since Roman Antiquity

11.45 – 12.00  U. Segel
Ar-Raqqa (Syria) - research on historic aerial and satellite photographs

12.00 – 13.00  Lunch break

Block 2: Aerial photogrammetry
(chair: A. Reiterer, The Vienna University of Technology)

13.00 – 13.30  N. Galatsatos
Utilising CORONA imagery for modern questions

13.35 – 13.50  B. Stichelbaut, J. Bourgeois
The overlooked aerial imagery of World War I: A unique source for landscape and conflict archaeology

13.55 – 14.10  V. Heck, F. Seiler, S. Vogel
Rectification of historic RAF aerial photos and generation of an orthophotomosaic of the Same River basin, Italy

14.15 – 14.30  Short break

Historical aerial imagery in the context of the ‘1950s Syndrome’ in Central Europe

14.50 – 15.05  M. Braune, E. Seyfert
Luftbildsammelstelle im Wandel - Aufbau eines digitalen Luftbildarchivs in Brandenburg

15.10 – 15.25  A. P. Redecker
Time Series Analysis based on Historical Aerial Photographs and Integrated GIS for Recycling Derelict Land Sites

15.30 – 16.00  Coffee break

Block 3: Historic Maps for modern questions
(chair: J. Peipe, Bundeswehr University, Munich)

16.00 – 16.30  R. Bösch
Reconstruction of vegetation history by inverse mapping

16.35 – 16.50  D. Salzmann, M. Bürgi
Historic Maps as Invaluable Sources for Land-Use Reconstruction – the Example of the Cadastral Map of Limpach (CH) from 1749

16.55 – 17.10  Chr. Schuppiett
A GIS-based Application of large-scale Historical Maps as a Contribution to Archaeological Research

17.15 – 17.30  Short break

17.30 – 17.45  V. Kozlovskaya
Nineteenth-century administrative boundary maps as a source of information for ancient settlements on the northern Black Sea coast

17.50 – 18.05  R. Ebersbach, W. Hoyer
Tracing archaeological evidence with the help of historical maps and digital terrain models: case studies from the Archaeological Service of the Canton of Bern

Sunday, 30th November 2008

Block 4: Land-use and climate change
(chair: J. Chandler, Loughborough University)

08.45 – 09.15  J. Poesen
Assessment of soil erosion processes and rates from historical documents

09.20 – 09.35  H. G. Carls, W. Müller, R. Glaser, S. Vogt
Searching brownfields with wartime and post-war historic aerial imagery

09.40 – 09.55  N. Mitchell, G. Schaab
Using remote sensing and old maps in combination with archival documents, oral histories, and placename evidence to show changes in rainforest cover for the Kakamega-Nandi Forest complex, Kenya

10.00 – 10.15  Th. Horst
Manuscript Maps as sources for cultural history and the history of climatology

10.20 – 10.50  Coffee break

10.50 – 11.05  S. U. Nussbaumer, H. J. Zumbühl
Glacier length fluctuations in the Alps and in southern Norway back to the 16th century based on historical data

11.10 – 11.25  A. Ritler
Historical photographs as sources for the study of environmental change in Ethiopia and Northeast Africa for the last 150 years

11.30 – 11.45  J. Walstra, V. M. A. Heyvaert, P. Verkinderen
Historical images of past landscapes in Lower Khuzestan

11.50 – 12.05  Ph. Forêt
Historical topographical maps as sources of information on climate change in Asia

12.10 – 13.00  Discussion / closing session