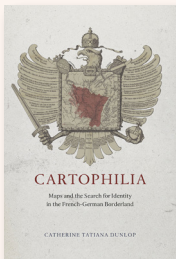


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## CARTOPHILIA: MAPS AND THE SEARCH FOR IDENTITY IN THE FRENCH-GERMAN BORDERLAND



By Catherine Tatiana Dunlop

The University of Chicago Press, 2015

257 pages, 16 color plates, 71 halftones (primarily maps), \$45.00, hardcover.

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**Review by:** Leslie Wagner

*Cartophilia: Maps and the Search for Identity in the French-German Borderland*, focuses on the representation of the Alsace-Lorraine region on European maps in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The author also provides an introduction which offers a general overview of the cartographic aspects she discusses, and an epilogue addressing changes that have been seen—and can be anticipated—since the period covered in the book.

Part I, "Mapping Borders," consists of three chapters. The first, "States Map Their Borders," examines cartography from a national viewpoint. The second chapter, "What Makes a Good Border?" provides an interesting discussion of natural and imposed boundaries. The third, "Language

Maps," demonstrates the use of regional language and/or local dialect to distinguish the appropriate placement of national boundaries, along with the reactions and consequences at national levels.

Part II of *Cartophilia* represents the bulk of the book, and is devoted to close examination of the varied cartography of the Alsace-Lorraine region and of its central city, Strasbourg. It particularly examines the development of regional identity in Alsace-Lorraine as it progressed from a landscape of insular villages into a unified region centered on the cathedral city of Strasbourg. Dunlop thoroughly discusses the ebb and flow of French and German influence as they alternately exerted control over the region. The late nineteenth century also saw the rise of the bourgeois class, which brought changes in personal and social activities; in particular, the development of tourism. This resulted in the incorporation of regional landmarks and memorials into maps and other visual materials, and also spurred the growth of private organizations devoted to supporting touristic pursuits, further encouraging the blending of cultures. In Chapter 4, "Finding the Center," the author explores regional identity and the concept of a regional homeland (as distinct from a national identity),