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Johann George Schreiber's *Atlas selectus*: editions and dating

Abstract. The author of this paper sets out to identify and date the individual editions of *Atlas selectus* that were published in Leipzig by Johann George Schreiber and his heirs. The paper is based on the analysis of maps and printed registers from 27 unique editions of the atlas. After a brief summary of Schreiber's non-cartographic activity, the atlas is presented and dating of its eight editions is proposed, from 1741 to the end of the 18th century. Some special editions of the atlas are also identified and briefly described. The estimated production rate of maps in Schreiber's workshop is compared with earlier research. Finally, a few misconceptions concerning Schreiber and his cartography are clarified.

Keywords: Johann George Schreiber, *Atlas selectus*, 18th century German atlases, maps of Silesia

1. Introduction

Why bother with Schreiber's small atlas, a collection of unsophisticated maps that are not based on original drawings (with few exceptions) but compiled, copied or adapted from earlier sources? There are at least three reasons. First, of the many publications on the Schreiber family and their cartographical output, none have paid enough attention to the details of the long publication history of *Atlas selectus* (hereafter: AS)¹. Second, inexact (or simply wrong) information on the Schreibers and their atlas is often to be found in literature. Third (and most appealing to the author) – an opportunity to identify editions of this ever-changing atlas, owing to a relatively large number of extant copies in the libraries worldwide. The last point has somehow been overlooked by earlier research, leaving it open for the current paper.

2. Schreiber's early works, his workshop and his heirs

Johann George Schreiber (1676–1750), founder of the Leipzig printing and publishing enterprise, was born in Neusalza (today Neusalza-Spremberg in Germany's Upper Lusatia). His sharp eye for detail as well as talents for drawing and engraving had manifested with his 1698 vedute of Bautzen, engraved during school years in the local gymnasium. Schreiber's early works are generally views of towns and prominent places in them. His best known works are: bird's-eye views of Bautzen made before and after the 1709 fire that devastated a large part of the city; an impressively detailed and faithful view of Leipzig's marketplace with surroundings (1712); an engraving of the All Saints' church in Wittenberg; and a view of the baroque Moritzburg Castle in Zeitz (1713). During his later years in Leipzig, Schreiber issued many detailed engravings showing noteworthy parts of the city – churches, prominent houses and street views – including "Der Sack", the small alley where he lived.

¹ E. Jäger 2019, M. and W. Stams 2004, G. Hensel 2001, to name a few.

Table 1. *Atlas selectus*: (1) Editions, dating, number of leaves / maps. (2) Maps of Silesia: location in the atlas and chronology of appearance

(1) <i>Atlas selectus</i>	estimated date >	1741			1742							
	edition symbol >	R33	R36	R37	R38	R39	R40	R42	R44	R45	R~55	
	number of leaves >	33	36	37	38	39	40	42	44	45	~55	
	number of maps >	33	34	36	37	37	38	40	42	43	~53	
(2) Maps of Silesia	note 1	note 2	# 1	# 2	# 3	# 4	# 5	# 6	# 7	# 8	# 9	# 10
Reise Charte (...) Böhmen	JGS	JChS	14	---	15	15	16	17	18	18	18	19
Schlesien	JGS	x	15	17	18	18	19	20	21	21	22	25
Breslau	JGS	x	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	26
Sagan	JGS	x	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	27
Iauer u. Liegnitz	JGS	x	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Schweidnitz	JGS	x	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Wohlau	JGS	x	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Gros-Glogau	JGS	x	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Brieg	JGSE	JChS	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Oelsa	JGSE	JChS	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Neissa	JGSW	JChS	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Munsterberg	JGSW	JChS	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Troppau u. laegerndorf	JGSW	JChS	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Oppeln	JGSW	JChS	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Ratibor	JGSW	JChS	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Teschen	JGSW	JChS	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Remarks >>	1,8		6	9	7	2, 7	4					5

remarks

- Notes on maps: JGS = Johann George Schreiber, JGSW = Johann George Schreibers Wittbe, JGSE = Johann George Schreibers Erben, JChS = Johann Christian Schreiber
- Zedler, Bd. 35, 1743, col. 1156
- Register dated 1746 (the only known dated edition of the atlas)
- Shirley T.SCHR-1a
- Preserved only one page of the register, up to „33. Schwa[e]bischer Creiss"
- „Titul-Blatt" and „Meilen-Zeiger" not listed in the register; map no. 6 as „Partugal (!) und Spanien"
- „Meilen-Zeiger" not listed in the register
- Map of Silesia with Johann Christian Schreiber's address, allegedly in collection of Śląskie Ziemskie Muzeum in Opava (Czech Republic), was not confirmed by the museum. The map is listed as Kot 26
- Two variants of the printed register known, with the same list of maps but set differently: word „Kreis" in titles of the maps listed in register are printed as „Creiss" (var. A) or as „Kreis" (var. B)
- Photocopies of registers received courtesy of Dr. Eckhard Jäger, Lüneburg, Germany

Sources cited in remarks:

Kot – H. Kot, 1970, *Historia nowożytnej kartografii Śląska 1800–1939*, Katowice: Wydawnictwo „Śląsk"

Shirley – R.W. Shirley, 2004, *Maps in the Atlases of the British Library*, London: British Library

1746		1747		1749				1756	1759							1795
R64	R70	R85	R90	R100	R112	R117	R120	R126	R129	R130	R131	R133	R136	R144	R149	R159
64	70	85	90	100	112	117	120	126	129	130	131	133	136	144	149	159
62	68	83	88	98	110	115	118	124	127	128	129	131	134	142	147	157
# 11	# 12	# 13	# 14	# 15	# 16	# 17	# 18	# 19	# 20	# 21	# 22	# 23	# 24	# 25	# 26	# 27
20	24	26	26	26	27	27	27	28	28	29	29	29	29	31	32	35
26	30	32	32	32	33	33	33	35	35	36	36	36	36	38	41	44
27	31	33	33	33	34	34	34	36	36	37	37	37	37	39	42	45
29	33	35	35	36	37	38	39	41	41	42	42	42	42	44	47	50
28	32	34	34	34	35	36	37	39	39	40	40	40	40	42	45	48
---	---	---	---	35	36	37	38	40	40	41	41	41	41	43	46	49
---	---	---	---	37	38	39	40	42	42	43	43	43	43	45	48	51
---	---	---	---	---	39	40	41	43	43	44	44	44	44	46	49	52
---	---	---	---	---	---	35	36	38	38	39	39	39	39	41	44	47
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	35	37	37	38	38	38	38	40	43	46
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	44	44	45	46	47	47	49	52	55
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	45	45	45	47	50	53
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	46	46	48	51	54
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	48	50	53	56
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	49	51	54	57
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	50	52	55	58
3												10		10		10

Example copies of the atlas' editions listed in the table in:

# 1 UOT sign. G 1015 .S37 1782	# 14 OeNB sign. 721465-C
# 2 variant A: BEL sign. A-194-II	# 15 BUWr sign. 8 F 6699
variant B: SBB-PK sign. B 660	# 16 BSB sign. Mapp. 71
# 3 image of register in author's files	# 17 UGB sign. 814/14
# 4 image of register in author's files	# 18 FSW sign. Sa
# 5 BL sign. C.7.b.31	# 19 UCB sign. ff G1015 .S34 1749
# 6 BUL sign. GZ Sch7	# 20 AMH sign. B 77 (G)
# 7 image of register in author's files	# 21 SDUB sign. 982.6
# 8 ELB sign. IV f 1	# 22 SBB-PK sign. B 664
# 9 SBBa sign. Atl.geogr.63-m	# 23 image of register in author's files
# 10 UWM (AGS) sign. At.050	# 24 image of register in author's files
# 11 PAN sign. B.I.29	# 25 image of register in author's files
# 12 image of register in author's files	# 26 SLB sign. Geogr.A.201.m
# 13 image of register in author's files	# 27 image of register in author's files

Note: „image of register in author's files" refers to copies of the atlas in private collections or sold by auction houses or internet sellers.

Explanation of symbols of libraries on the next page.

Explanation of symbols of libraries listed in table 1

AMH	Altonaer Museum, Hamburg, Germany
BEL	Biblioteka Elbląska, Elbląg, Poland
BL	The British Library, London, Great Britain
BSB	Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, München, Germany
BUL	Brown University Library, Providence, RI, USA
BUWa	Biblioteka Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, Warszawa, Poland
BUWr	Biblioteka Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, Wrocław, Poland
ELB	Eutiner Landesbibliothek, Eutin, Germany
FSW	Fürst zu Stolberg-Wernigerodesche Bibliothek, Hirzenhain, Germany
OeNB	Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, Wien, Austria
PAN	Polska Akademia Nauk, Biblioteka Gdańska, Gdańsk, Poland
SBB-PK	Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – Preussischer Kulturbesitz, Berlin, Germany
SBBa	Staatsbibliothek Bamberg, Bamberg, Germany
SDUB	Syddansk Universitetsbibliothek, Odense, Denmark
SLB	Sächsische Landesbibliothek, Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek, Dresden, Germany
UCB	University of California, Berkeley, CA, USA
UGB	Universitätsbibliothek Greifswald, Greifswald, Germany
UOT	University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada
UWM	University of Wisconsin Library, Milwaukee, WI, USA

Before permanently settling in Leipzig around 1718, Schreiber drew and engraved only two maps, both in large format: *OBER-LAUSITZ* (1705; followed by the 2nd state in 1709 with a division line added between areas populated by German- and Sorbian-speaking populations); and *Das STIFFT NAUMBURG und ZEITZ*, surrounded by a double row of 120 miniature images of churches, mainly from this prince-bishopric territory (ca. 1718). The first of these maps, modelled after Bartholomäus Scultetus' 1593 woodcut, was an updated copperplate version, with a typographic list of settlements published separately. The second map was accompanied by a similar register of place names, printed with Schreiber's commentary describing his surveying work and extensive travels throughout the mapped area.

Problems encountered by Schreiber to get these two maps printed (which forced him to build a printing press himself²) may have been the underlying reason he decided to establish his own workshop. Schreiber was probably well aware that the market for the large-format prints was quite competitive at that time, with the well-established firms of Homann and Seutter as the main players, particularly in the produc-

tion and supply of maps³. Having a long-time penchant for detail, so distinctly demonstrated in his earlier works, Schreiber decided to focus on small-format prints – the right move, it seems, as confirmed by the 150-year-long history of the business he founded⁴. Schreiber probably carried the business alone (at least in the first years of his activity in Leipzig) as nothing is known about assistance from other engravers or printers in this early period. Limiting output to small format may have been the only viable option for the one-man enterprise in this context⁵. It should also be added that Schreiber's engraving skills had hardly any local competition: in 1710 there were only two active engravers in Leipzig⁶.

³ Johann Baptista Homann founded his Nuremberg workshop in 1702, publishing his first atlas in 1707 (*Neuer Atlas ueber die gantze Welt*); Matthäus Seutter the Elder began producing maps in Augsburg around 1707 and published his first atlas in 1720 (*Atlas Compendiosus*).

⁴ Schreiber was not alone in coming to such a practical conclusion: Johann Christoph Weigel's workshop managed to survive in Nuremberg by producing *Atlas portatilis* (1717) and other handy atlases, thus avoiding competition with the more expensive folio maps and atlases offered by the potent Homann's publishing house, located in the same town.

⁵ E. Jäger 2019, p. 83.

⁶ M. and W. Stams 2004, p. 121.

² J.H. Zedler 1743, col. 1154.

Some of the first products offered by Schreiber were small calendars (the earliest known example is dated 1724). Their attractive pocket-size format (3.5 × 5 cm approx.), images adequately illustrating each of the months, and the not often seen two-colour print (black and red) made them a popular product. All consecutive owners of Schreiber's enterprise continued to publish these calendars until at least 1874 (the last known edition). Other miniature items from the house were so-called "Taufbriefe", which were small single-sheet letters, embellished with religious motifs and congratulatory texts, that were presented by godparents or guests on the occasion of an infant's baptism⁷.

After Schreiber's death (1750) the work was carried out by his widow Maria Dorothea (until she died in 1782), then by Johann Christian Schreiber, who was Johann George's nephew. After his death (ca. 1790) the business was run for a short time by Johann Christian's widow, then by Christian Gottlieb Riedig who married Johann Christian's daughter Christiana Dorothea in 1795⁸. Riedig owned and directed "Verlag Schreibers Erben" up to 1848 when he sold it to Eduard Heyn of Zittau. The last owner was Friedrich Geissler who acquired the assets in 1857 and ran the publishing business until its closure in the late 1870s.

3. Schreiber's small-format maps

The production of small maps for which Schreiber is best known can be traced back to the *SAECHSISCHE POST-CHARTE nebst vielen angraetzenden Orthen* (EJ 155⁹), offered to the Leipzig city council in May 1727¹⁰. This first small-format map exhibits all features typical of the later series of maps that formed the AS and made them uniform-looking and easily identifiable: a side column with abbreviations

(printed from the same plate), similar dimensions (W × H with side columns 23–25 × 16–18 cm approx.), a small wind rose, characteristic palette of colours, etc.

Schreiber's maps are generally reduced and generalised versions of large-format maps available at the time: maps of Silesian duchies were adapted from Johann Wolfgang Wieland and Matthaeus Schubarth's cartography in *Atlas Silesiae*, published by Homann Heirs in 1750 (i.e. 1752); Johann Christoph Müller's *MAPPA GEOGRAPHICA REGNI BOHEMIAE (...)* from 1720 served as a template for the maps of parts of Bohemia; the majority of about 60 sub-regional maps of Saxonia presenting so-called "Amts", specific German administration units¹¹, was modelled after Adam Friedrich Züner's manuscript drawings, published by Petrus II Schenk in 1752 in Amsterdam as *Atlas Saxonicus Novus*; etc.

A long time before the idea of an atlas was conceived, Schreiber's maps were sold as single sheets, as can be observed in the notes in their title cartouches ("zu haben bey J.G. Schreiber in Leipzig", and similar). Leipzig, with its famous Europe-wide trade fairs, was a good location for map publishers. Hundreds of tradesmen arrived there every year and were certainly an important target group for the sale of Schreiber's cartography. It is not surprising, therefore, that among his earliest maps quite a few have titles beginning with "Reise Charte" (Travel Map)¹². However, roads marked on these and other maps were far from precise, and were most often presented as segments of straight lines connecting the more notable towns.

4. The *Atlas selectus*

After around 30 single maps had been issued, Schreiber decided to publish them in the form of an atlas. Its full title *Atlas selectus von allen Königreichen und Ländern der Welt zum be-*

⁷ E. Jäger 2019, p. 78, presents a list and descriptions of these small items.

⁸ According to M. and W. Stams 2004, p. 132, Christiana Dorothea was Johann George's granddaughter.

⁹ This and the following EJ numbers refer to Jäger's catalogue listing 294 "variants" of 147 maps from AS; see E. Jäger 2019, pp. 50–66. Jäger's "variants" should not be confused with states, as the only differentiating element observed in his catalogue is the publisher's address in the map's cartouche.

¹⁰ This map was published as a single sheet. Its later state was included in AS, with title changed to *NEUE REISE-CHARTE durch SACHSEN* (EJ 156).

¹¹ From the late Middle Ages to the 20th century the "Amt" was an institution administering the rights of the sovereign or landowner, and responsible for the regional jurisdiction. Over time, this name began to mean also the administered area itself.

¹² Eight such maps, that had previously been sold individually, are among the 33 appearing in the first identified edition of AS published ca. 1741 (this date is the author's estimate, as discussed later in this paper).

quemen Gebrauch in Schulen, auf Reisen und bey dem Leser der Zeitungen, defines potential groups of customers: students, travellers and newspaper readers. The allegorical title page depicting the muse of geography, putti, the globe, measuring and drawing devices, etc., printed without date for this first edition, remained unchanged and undated throughout all later editions¹³. The title page format, 15 × 18 cm (W × H), which corresponds to approximately half the size of the maps, suggests that initially it was planned that the atlas would appear in this small format, with maps folded in the middle. However, in majority of extant copies in which the number of maps exceeds 120 or so, the leaves of the atlas are bound flat (*plano*), with the title's allegorical engraving usually centred on the oblong title page¹⁴.

The maps in the atlas were accompanied by a "Meilen-Zeiger" (EJ 2), a diagram showing distances between 57 German and 23 other European towns, and a "Register" (EJ 298), a typographic list of maps. The title of the latter, "Register zu denen hierinnen befindlichen Karten", was changed after Johann George Schreiber's death to "Register (...) Schreiberrischen Karten". The analysis of atlas editions presented in this paper is based on these typographic registers and is limited to the editions represented by these registers. It should be noted that registers contain shortened and not always obvious versions of the titles of the maps (e.g. the map, *Das meiste von der LOMBARDEY als MEYLAND, PARMA und PIACENZA* (...) (EJ 64), is listed in the registers as "Meyland, Parma und Piacenza"; a map of Russia, *Das gantze RUSSISCHE KAEYSERTHUM* (...) (EJ 281), is named "Moscau"; etc.)¹⁵.

The maps following the title page and the "Meilen-Zeiger" are ordered in the atlas in the traditional manner: first an image of the terrestrial hemispheres ("Globus" in the register), next maps of four continents, followed by individual

European countries¹⁶. The presentation of these goes from the west of Europe ("Portugal und Spanien") to the east ("Moscau", "Tartarey"). Newly engraved maps were added to consecutive editions of the atlas (mainly sub-regional maps of Germany, maps of Italian states, Silesian duchies, etc.). As the maps appeared, they were gradually inserted in geographically appropriate parts of the atlas (e.g. maps of Silesian duchies followed the general map of Silesia). The last map in all known typographic registers is always "Das gelobte Land" a map of Palestine.

4.1. Analysed sample

Among approximately 60 copies of the atlas checked during the course of this study many have manuscript lists of maps inserted in the place of printed registers that were missing (or never present). Because such lists did not always represent the original contents of the atlas and were almost certainly procured by the atlas owners (or users, or librarians) they cannot be considered reliable and have been excluded from the analysis¹⁷. Some other copies have the titles of the extra added maps inserted by hand into the original typographic registers. Such insertions were not taken into account either, though the printed registers themselves were.

All in all, 27 unique printed registers have been identified, with the number of leaves varying from 33 to 159 (including the title page and "Meilen-Zeiger"), containing 33 to 157 maps. With few exceptions the number of leaves corresponds to the number indicating the "Das gelobte Land" map in the register (always the last map in AS; numbers being consecutive), while the number of maps equals the number of leaves minus the title page and the "Meilen-zeiger" (if present in the register). Information about these 27 registers is summarised in table 1, together with the list of the maps of Silesia, exemplifying the gradual enriching of

¹³ In some late editions, a date was added by hand or typographically onto the undated copperplate title page (e.g. Warsaw University library copy sign. M. 6293, with "1817" added in print).

¹⁴ In this paper "leaf" designates the printed page of the atlas, as is listed in its register.

¹⁵ Distorted titles in AS registers may be misleading: although "Moscau" is a shortened name for the map of Russia, Stams list it as a separate map, allegedly published only in one AS edition; see M. and W. Stams 2004, p. 137.

¹⁶ A few maps of parts of other continents appear only in later editions of AS. The earliest such map is *CHARTÉ von dem ENGELLAENDISCHEN u. FRANZOESISCHEN Besitzungen in NORD AMERICA* (EJ 31) from ca. 1756.

¹⁷ A prominent example is Baskes 6838, the most extensive collection of maps from AS (without title page), with 162 maps and 2 manuscript pages listing the maps; see baskes.com/collation-A.htm (accessed 11 April 2020).

the atlas with newly engraved maps¹⁸. For the sake of brevity, notation is used hereafter to identify the editions of the atlas by the number of leaves in their registers (e.g. "R64" stands for the AS edition with 64 leaves in the register). The number of leaves was chosen, not the number of maps, because some registers have the same number of maps but a different number of leaves (see R38 and R39).

The analysis of the registers and their composition allowed a few rules to be identified:

- 1) a new register was printed after the addition of even one new map to the atlas;
- 2) once added to the atlas, the map was included in all the following editions;
- 3) new maps were added in the geographically appropriate places of AS, pushing maps that followed towards the end of the atlas;
- 4) the more leaves listed in the register, the later the edition of AS.

The first rule is valid for the early editions of AS, published before Johann George Schreiber's death. Very few exceptions to the second rule are seen, and only in the earliest editions (see table 2). The four rules presented above do not apply to so-called special editions of AS (not listed in table 1), which are discussed later.

- new maps originating in Schreiber's workshop were added to AS without significant delay (valid at least for maps appearing after the first edition of AS and before Johann George's death);

- the date of the map's origin, if known, may be assumed as the approximate date of the AS edition in which this map was included for the first time, if listed in the edition's register.

Based on these assumptions, an attempt was made to find the approximate dates of publication of a few editions of AS.

4.2. *Atlas Selectus* – editions and dating

The earliest identified edition of AS is R33¹⁹. Interestingly, its register does not list a title page or a "Meilen-Zeiger", though both are present in the volume (two copies of R33 were checked). The "Meilen-Zeiger" is absent also in the R37 and R38 registers (in which it may not have been included at all), though we see the "Meilen-Zeiger" in R36, which was probably published a few months earlier. Since both title page and "Meilen-Zeiger" are listed in registers of all AS editions from R39 onwards, these irregularities may have happened before the final structure

Table 2. Maps omitted in some editions of *Atlas selectus*

EJ no.	Title of the map	First appears in atlas as	Map lacking in
77	Reise-Charte durch das KÖNIGREICH BÖHMEN (...)	no. 14 in R33	R36
87	Der LEUTMERITZER CRAEYS (...)	no. 17 in R33	R36
129	Das FÜRSTEN- und ERTZ-BISTHUM SALTZBURG (...)	no. 20 in R33	R36
135	Der SCHWAEBISCHE CREIS	no. 22 in R36	R37

Some assumptions can be derived from these rules:

- each register with a unique combination of the number of leaves and the number of maps represents an individual edition of the atlas;

of the atlas had been decided, which is consistent with the early occurrence of the exceptions listed in table 2.

Of the 27 identified editions of AS listed in table 1, eight can be more or less reliably dated,

¹⁸ Maps of Silesia were chosen to illustrate the development of the atlas as this paper is an offspring of the wider project devoted to 16th to 18th century cartography of Silesia. The full version of Table 1, listing 157 maps from the 27 identified editions of AS, could not be presented here due to technical reasons and is available from the author.

¹⁹ W. Lierz mentions an AS edition with 28 leaves, but no details are given nor is any reference made to the holding library; see W. Lierz: *Taschenatlas*. In: *Lexikon zur Geschichte der Kartographie*, Bd. 2, Wien, Deuticke, 1986, p. 804 (Lierz dates this alleged edition as ca. 1720, an improbably early date).

based on the dates a few maps that appeared in these editions for the first time, as well as on other premises.

R33 edition

The map of Silesia, *Das HERTZOGTHUM SCHLESSEN* (EJ 93), present in all known editions of AS, features a note at the bottom of the column on the right ("Diese Linie...") explaining the meaning of a line marked on the map. The line represents the marching route of the Prussian troops who entered Silesia on 16 December 1740 – the act that began the first Silesian War. In February 1741 the Prussians reached the southern outskirts of Silesia (the "labelunka" ramparts on the map). According to the adopted assumptions appearance of this map in R33 implies that 1741 was also the year when this edition of the atlas was published²⁰. In the same year a pirate copy of the map appeared (omitting Schreiber's name), with the title changed to *NEUE LAND-TAFEL DES HERZOGTHUMS OBER- UND NIEDER SCHLESSEN* (...), confirming that the original map must have been published in 1741²¹. Few maps can be as precisely dated as this map of Silesia.

R38 edition

A biographical note on Johann George Schreiber, published by Zedler in 1743, includes a reprinted register from the R38 edition of AS²². This allows the edition to be dated around 1742.

R64 edition

The register from this edition is the only one known featuring original publishing date ("1746" is printed below the list of maps).

R85 edition

The dated signature of the Battle of Laufeldt, which took place on 2 July 1747 during the War of the Austrian Succession, was engraved to the west of Maastricht on the map *Das Hertzogthum LIMBURG* (EJ 58). The map

appeared for the first time in the R85 edition of AS, for which the 1747 publication date has been adopted.

R100 edition

The only dated map among the 157 studied in 27 editions of AS listed in table 1 appeared for the first time in the R100 edition: the map of Greece, *Gantz Grichenland* (EJ 296), with "1749" following Johann George Schreiber's address in the title cartouche. The same year was assumed for the R100 edition.

R126 edition

This is the first edition which includes a map of the eastern part of North America, *CHARTE von dem ENGELLAENDISCHEN u. FRANZOESISCHEN Besitzungen in NORD AMERICA* (EJ 31). The map presents the situation on the eve of the Seven Years War (1756–1763), in the USA known as the French and Indian War. Territories east of the Mississippi river up to the Appalachian Mountains are described as being contested by England and France ("Das streitige Theil zwischen Engelland und Franckreich"). The *terminus post quem* of the map's origin is 1752 because Georgia is shown as the United Kingdom's crown colony, which it became that year²³. However, for the map (and the R126 AS edition) we adopt the year 1756 when the anonymous book *Das Britische Reich in America* was published, most probably in Leipzig²⁴. Disputes over boundaries presented in the book were illustrated with this map of Schreiber.

R129 edition

The earliest date of origin of *Die NEUE-MARCK und die UCKER-MARCK* (...) (EJ 256) is defined by the signature of the battle of Zorndorf (fought on 25 August 1758 during the Seven Years War). The year 1759 is adopted here for this map and the R126 edition of AS in which it was published for the first time.

²⁰ K. Lindner, *Zwischen Oder und Riesengebirge*, Anton H. Konrad Verlag, Weissenhorn, 1995, no.19, also dates this map as 1741, but locates it in an AS edition published after 1750, with no further explanation.

²¹ This map was included in an anonymous book *Historische und Geographische Beschreibung des Hertzogthums Schlesien*, Freystadt (i.e. Erfurt, Jungnicol), 1741; see E. Weller, *Die falschen und fingierten Druckorte*, Bd. 1, Engelmann, Leipzig, 1864, p. 81.

²² J.H. Zedler 1743, col.1156.

²³ Crown colonies were dependent territories under the administration of United Kingdom with a governor appointed by the king; see E.J. Cashin, *Royal Georgia, 1752–1776*. In: *New Georgia Encyclopedia*, 8 June 2017, georgiaencyclopedia.org (accessed 11 April 2020).

²⁴ H. Stevens, *Bibliotheca Geographica & Historica*. Pt. I, 1872, no. 451. Despite the title page listing one map, the book includes two: *AMERICA* (EJ 8) being the second. *Das Britische Reich* (...) is sometimes wrongly attributed to John Oldmixon (e.g. in the description of EJ 31).

R159 edition

In this edition of AS, with the most extensive printed register known, 10 new maps appeared, including two drawn by August Sadebeck²⁵: *Die CANARISCHEN INSELN* (EJ 46) and *Die Spanisch u. Französische INSEL SAN DOMINGO in AMERICA* (EJ 39). For the origin of these maps, and for the date of publication of the entire R159 edition, the year 1795 was arbitrarily adopted here, averaged from another two of Sadebeck's works. The first is *Das RUSSISCHE REICH in EUROPA und ASIA* (EJ 282), a map drawn by Sadebeck and published by the widow of Johann Christian Schreiber. This map, which refers in the legend to the Treaty of Jassy (signed on 9 January 1792), replaced an old map of Johann George Schreiber's: *Das gantze RUSSISCHE KAEYSERTHUM* (...) (EJ 281) in R159 and later editions of AS (the latter are not considered in this paper). The second map is *Polens Ende durch die lezten Theilungen und Besitznehmungen* (...), included in the book *Polens Ende, historisch, statistisch und geographisch beschrieben* published in Warsaw in 1797. Both the map and the book are signed by "Sirisa", though there are reasons to believe that the map was drawn by Sadebeck²⁶. As proved by these last two maps, the year 1795 adopted here for the maps of the Canary Islands and San Domingo (now Haiti) falls within the period of Sadebeck's cartographic activity and cooperation with Schreiber's heirs, though admittedly it is only a rough estimate.

It should be stressed that the dates of publication of the eight AS editions presented above are only more (R33, R38, R64, R85, R100, R129) or less (R126, R159) precise estimates. Publication dates of other editions, with intermediate numbers of maps, may be approximated based on those dated.

4.3. "Special" edition of *Atlas selectus*

There are editions of AS, not listed in table 1, featuring their own printed registers, the same title page and maps (with "Das gelobte Land" closing the list, as usual), but not following the rules defined in Section 4.1. These special editions (designated here by "S" and the number of leaves) are composed of only some maps selected from those available at the time of publication. Two such editions have been identified in the course of this research.

S36 edition²⁷

Had S36 been a "regular" edition, the number of maps listed in the register (35) would correspond to its publication in 1742 or so (see table 1). However, it contains a map of Greece (EJ 296) dated 1749, and even later *Das HERTZOGTHUM POMMERN* (EJ 259), first published in R112 edition of AS, dated circa 1751. If this date is also accepted for the S36 edition, then there are more than 70 maps that had appeared in the earlier, "regular" editions of AS but were not included in S36. S36 might have been an abridged version of the "regular" AS, containing only a selection of the most important maps, intended for use in schools, and/or a cheaper option for customers.

S50 editions

Two variants of S50 are known. Typographic registers of both, featuring the same list of maps, are set differently: Corsica in the register's title of map no. 20 is "Corsica" in S50A²⁸, and "Cor-sika" in S50B²⁹. The number of maps listed in these registers (48) would correspond to publication in 1744 or 1745 if they were "regular" editions, but the presence of *CHARTÉ von dem ENGELLAENDISCHEN u. FRANZOESISCHEN Besitzungen in NORD AMERICA* (EJ 31) suggests 1756 as the correct date (see the dating of the R126 edition above). As in the case of S36, some 70 maps published before that date were not included in either variant of S50. A closer look at the contents of both variants shows one more telltale difference.

²⁵ August Friedrich Wilhelm Sadebeck (1770–1846) was a textile manufacturer, botanist, and chronicler active in Reichenbach (now Dzierżoniów in Poland's Lower Silesia).

²⁶ Some sources identify Sirisa as August Sadebeck, some as Carl Joseph Hübner (?–1822), a school director active in Lower Silesia. It cannot be excluded that the book and the map were a result of teamwork and "Sirisa" is a common pseudonym for this duo of authors.

²⁷ Herzogin Anna Amalia Bibliothek, Weimar, Germany, sign. KT 700 – 93 b.

²⁸ Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, Wien, sign. FKB 273-127; Raczyński Library, Poznań, Poland, sign. A II 117.

²⁹ Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – Preussischer Kulturbesitz, sign. 8* @Kart. B 666

The title of map no. 45 as printed in the two registers is the same "Moscau", but represents two different maps: in S50A it is *Das gantz RUSSISCHE KAEYSERTHUM* (...) (EJ 281), present in AS from the very beginning, in S50B "Moscau" stands for *Das RUSSISCHE REICH in EUROPA und ASIA* (EJ 282), with a note on the 1792 Treaty of Jassy (see the dating of R159 above). This replacing of maps suggests that S50A may be dated around 1756, while S50B would have been significantly later, and definitely after 1792.

The comparison of the S36 and S50 special editions reveals a group of six sub-regional maps of Italy, present in both variants of S50 but not to be found in S36, though they were available at the time of the latter's publication. This may be interpreted as an indication that S50 was compiled specifically for the Italian market.

5. Production rate of maps for *Atlas selectus*

Although there are more maps in AS that can be individually dated than those presented above, this is often useless when it comes to dating the atlas itself. A good example is *Das KO[e]NIGREICH PREUSSEN nebst dem POLNISCHEN ANTHEIL* (EJ 271), one of the first of Schreiber's small-format maps. The area around the lower course of the Nemunas river is described in its legend as the place "(...) where the Salzburg emigrants are supposed to live". This note refers to the destination chosen by many Protestants expelled from the Salzburg archbishopric in the year 1731. Because the map was included in the book on the history of this expulsion, published in 1733³⁰, we can date its origin as 1732. At that time Schreiber might have had only a couple of other maps ready, definitely too few to arrange the publication of the atlas. Because the first map in AS format, *SAECHSISCHE POST-CHARTe* (...), was ready mid-1727 as described earlier, a more general question arises regarding the rate of map production in Schreiber's printing shop.

This question was recently addressed by Jäger³¹ who estimated the time needed to engrave one map (14 days), then he multiplied this by two to allow for other activities necessary to get the map ready in a one-man shop like Schreiber's. A production rate of 12 maps per year was then applied to calculate the publication date of the editions with a known number of maps, using 1727 (the date of the first map in AS format) as the starting point. The resulting dates obtained by Jäger are improbably early: for the R38 edition of AS (with 37 maps) Jäger calculates the year as 1730; for the atlas with 80 maps (edition unknown to the current author) the result is the year 1733–34, as an extra 3.5 years were needed to engrave 43 additional maps; etc. Apart from a few disputable assumptions underlying Jäger's calculations, there is one fundamental objection to his method: it ignores the contents of individual maps which put limits on their dates of origin and on the dating of the parent edition of the atlas. To illustrate: the aforementioned route of the Prussian troops marching across Silesia, marked on the map in AS (EJ 93), leaves little doubt that the map must have been engraved *after* the troops reached the country's southern border (February 1741), so cannot be part of the R38 edition of AS which Jäger dates around 1730.

Undoubtedly, maps were being produced in Schreiber's shop at varying rates, depending on many factors (most often incalculable), such as practical experience of the current owners (later also possible co-workers), availability of material and model maps, market demand, etc. What we can calculate, however, are some estimates averaged over chosen intervals of the shop's activity. Having dated a few editions of AS we can try to evaluate the production rate of maps in the periods between some of these editions. The results presented in table 3 show that making the 33 maps needed to compile the first edition of AS (R33) took Schreiber 14 years, with an average yield of between 2 and 3 maps per year (arguably less in the first part of this period and more later). During the next 15 years separating the R33 (1741) and R126 (1756) editions, when about 60% of the 157 maps considered in this study

³⁰ Ch. Sancke, *Ausführliche Historie derer Emigranten oder vertriebenen Lutheraner (...)*, Teubner, Leipzig, 1732–1733 (1st edition in 4 parts, map in part 2 published in 1733).

³¹ E. Jäger 2019, pp. 82–83.

Table 3. *Atlas selectus* – map production rate

AS edition	Date of edition	Number of maps	Increment of maps	Increment of years	Maps per year
1st map	1727	0	x	x	x
R33	1741	33	33	14	2.4
R64	1746	62	29	5	5.8
R126	1756	124	62	10	6.2
R159	1795	157	33	39	0.8
map production rate 1727–1795			157	68	2.3

were created, the average output of the shop was quite stable with about six new maps issued per year³². The rate of production of new maps significantly decreased after the R126 edition (1756), with an average output of less than one new map per year during a period of about 39 years, ending with the R159 edition, published circa 1795. Editions which appeared later are beyond the scope of this paper.

6. Some misconceptions corrected

Below are listed comments on a few popular misconceptions regarding Schreiber and his *Atlas selectus*:

- Johann George Schreiber was neither Johann Christian Schreiber's son³³, nor his father³⁴, but the child of a Neusalza carpenter³⁵, while Johann Christian was Johann George's nephew.

- The map of Greece, *Gantz Grichenland* (EJ 296), dated 1749, is sometimes presented as the last map engraved by Johann George Schreiber (died 1750)³⁶. It may be true, although in the R100 edition (where the map of Greece appeared), several other maps signed by Johann George also appeared for the first time, e.g. *Das GROS-HERTZOGTHUM FINLAND*

(EJ 269) and a few sub-regional maps of Germany. Five new maps with his signature were included in an even later R112 edition, very probably published after 1750, e.g. the map of the Silesian duchy of Glogów, *Das FÜRSTENTHUM GROS-GLOGAU (...)* (EJ 105). These were either ready before Johann George died or signed after his death, using his renowned name for marketing reasons (a more probable scenario in the author's opinion). There are no new maps with Johann George's address in R117 and the later editions listed in table 1.

- Although the date 1749 present on the map of Greece mentioned above (the only one dated in AS) applies exclusively to the R100 edition in which the map appeared for the first time, it is often generalised as the publication date of any AS copy and presented as such in library catalogues worldwide (sometimes with "circa" added).

- Tobias Conrad Lotter, active in Augsburg, who continued to issue his father-in-law's *Atlas minor*, after 1762 expanded this atlas with 10 new maps of Silesia. It is no coincidence that these maps are exact copies of 10 earlier maps of Silesia published by Schreiber, as listed in table 1 (from "Schlesien" to "Neissa"). Despite this, an opposite view regarding the authorship of the maps is sometimes presented³⁷.

7. Final remarks

This article is possibly the first attempt to deduce publication dates of the notoriously

³² This result conforms to the upper limit estimated earlier by M. and W. Stams 2004, p. 128, as 4 to 6 maps per year.

³³ L. Bagrow, R.A. Skelton, *History of Cartography*, Chicago, Precedent Publishing, 1985, p. 271, and many publications after this classic textbook, e.g. V. Scott (ed.), *Tooley's Dictionary of Mapmakers. Revised Edition*, Vol.4, Riverside, Early World Press, 2004, p. 131.

³⁴ Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, d-nb.info/gnd/1156352045 (accessed 11 April 2020).

³⁵ J.H. Zedler 1743, col. 1152.

³⁶ M. and W. Stams 2004, p. 132.

³⁷ J. Partsch, *Katalog der Ausstellung des XIII. Deutschen Geographentages zu Breslau*, Breslau, 1901, p. 41, no. 79 (on Schreiber's maps: "Diese Blätter sind genaue Nachstiche der Lotterschen Karten").

undated editions of Schreiber's *Atlas selectus*. However, dates presented here for the eight editions of the atlas cannot be treated as firm (except for the dated R64 edition). No doubt finding printed registers from the yet undetected editions will correct at least some findings presented here.

Further research on the publication history of Schreiber's atlas should involve, first of all,

a search for as many "new" printed registers from AS editions as possible³⁸. This would help to make the analysed sample more representative and publication dates more precise. Detailed analysis of individual maps from the atlas would also be helpful in this respect.

³⁸ Readers with access to typographic registers not listed in Table 1 are kindly requested to send their images to the author.

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