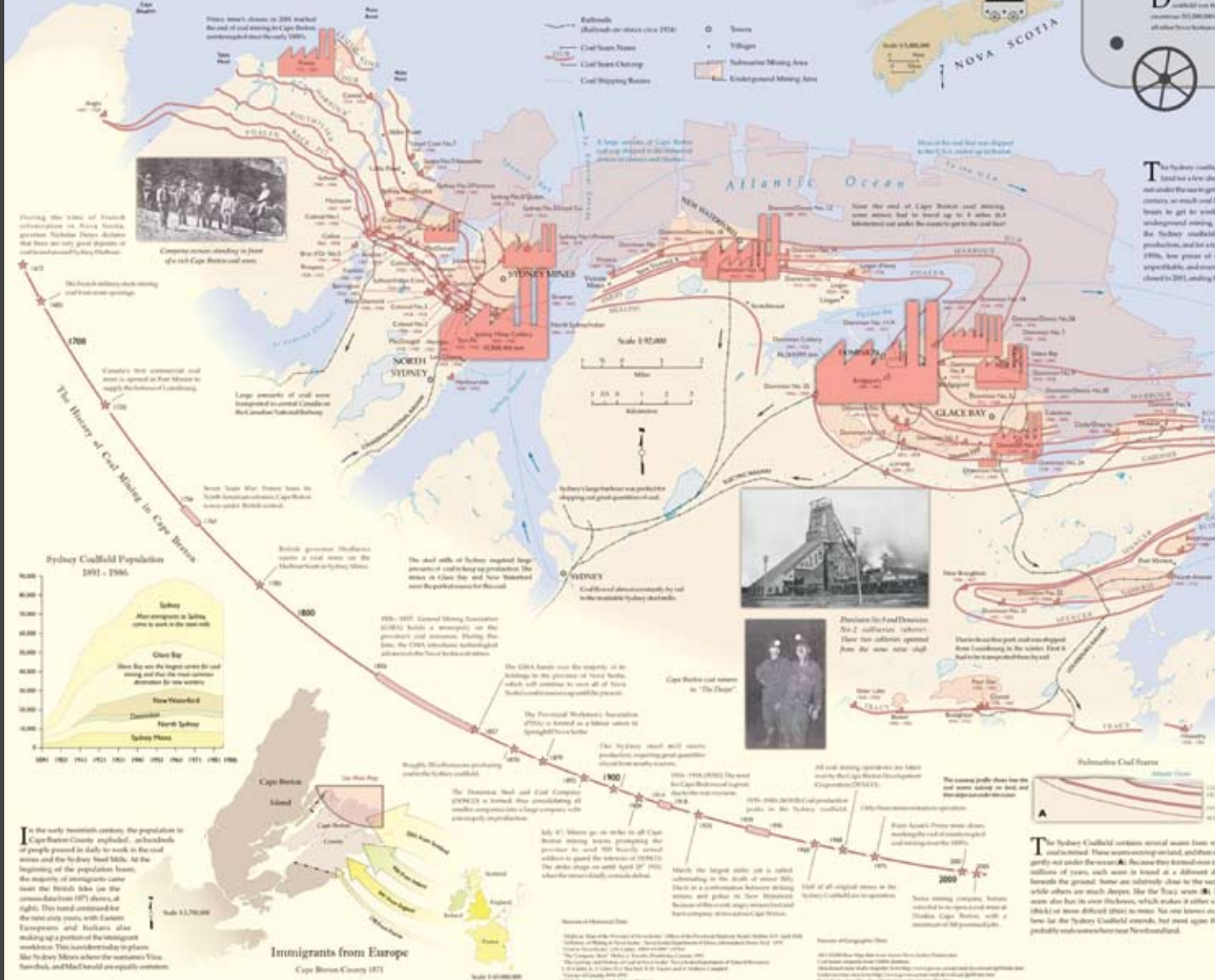
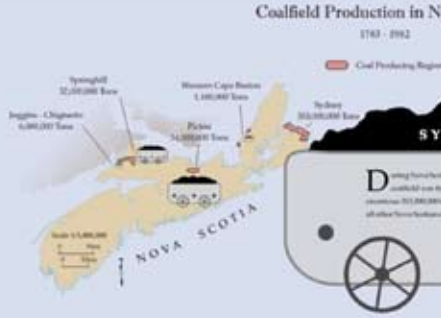
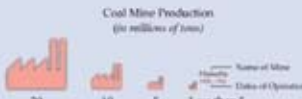


King of Coal

Peak Production of the Sydney Coalfield 1863 - 1976

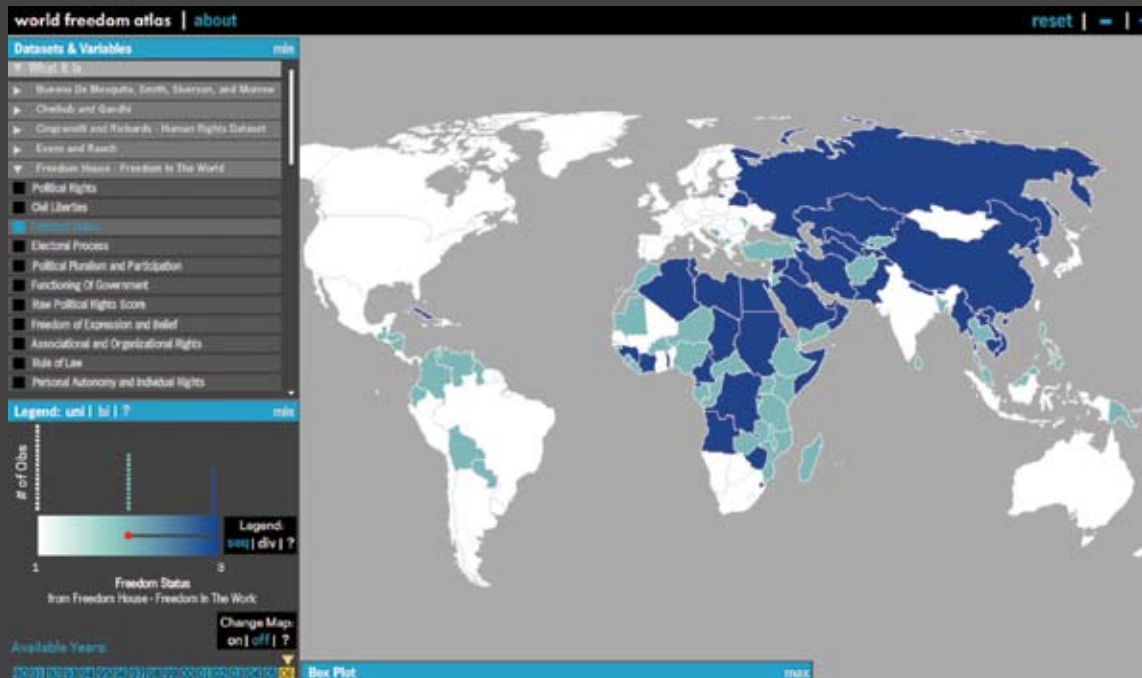
Coal mining has played a major role in the shaping of Cape Breton's history. Major deposits of coal were first discovered in the late seventeenth century, and mining there began soon thereafter. As first mining operations were sporadic, by the early nineteenth century, the mining industry picked up steam

and more and more people from Europe flocked to Cape Breton seeking a better life. The population of coal mining towns rose rapidly in the early nineteenth century, with so many new immigrants coming to work in the coal mines.



Recognizing College Students and Their Maps

—by David Miller, National Geographic Maps
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The National Geographic Society (NGS) has supported college student map awards through the CaGIS Map Design Competition for 20 years. It's amazing how quickly the time has gone by. Yet, even more amazing is the remarkable cartographic work of so many geography students during those fleeting two decades. The editor of the *ACSM Bulletin* asked me to write a brief history of the Geographic's award program that has supported these young cartographers. The following is an overview of the NGS student map awards program.

Origin

Our student map award started in 1988, marking the centennial anniversary of National Geographic and the adoption of the Robinson projection as the world projection for National Geographic maps. Clearly this was a big time for National Geographic, and I used the occasion to propose the student map award

with ACSM—CaGIS to then Chief Cartographer John Garver. I explained to John that the competition motivated me when I was a humble cartography student and that sponsoring an award was part of our mission in furthering geographic education. He was sold even before I finished my presentation, and we worked with ACSM—CaGIS to offer our first student map design award in late 1988.

Award Highlights

1988. First winner is Kirk Fisher, University of Maryland, College Park.

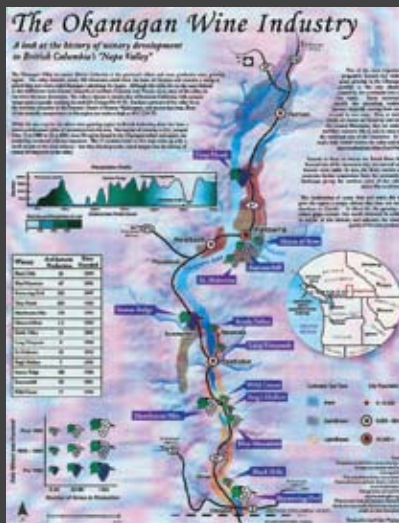
1992. Wendy Stratton, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, wins for her imposing poster map, *World Oil Tanker Spills*.

1998. Two \$500 awards are given: Best Computer Assisted Map to

Bruce Lochrie, Sir Sandford Fleming College, for a map on the new Nunavut territory; Best GIS Map to Harry Johnson, San Diego State University, for his *Tijuana River Watershed* map.

2003. The *Digital Atlas of Maryland Agriculture*, done by 11 students at University of Maryland Baltimore County, wins the NGS student award and the Best in Show award.

2004. Awards are renamed to honor University of Wisconsin-Madison professors Arthur Robinson and David Woodward, who both passed away in 2004. I was fortunate enough to know Arthur, or "Robbie," and we shared an intense interest in maps, cartographic education, and Miami University (Oxford, Ohio). We both received our B.A. degrees from Miami—but he got his about 40 years before me.



I got to know David Woodward when he was a "Cartographer in Residence" at National Geographic in the late 1980s. David's work on *The History of Cartography* series provided an invaluable cartographic database.

It seemed to be destiny that the first students to win these two awards were from the University of Wisconsin-Madison: Jared Wiedmeyer garnered the first Robinson award for his



Okanagan wine map, and Benjamin Sheesley won the first Woodward award for his interactive map on American Birkebeiner skiing.



2008. The winners were announced at the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting in Las Vegas on March 23, 2009, and the winning maps were displayed at the ACSM conference in Salt Lake City. The "Arthur Robinson Award for the Best Printed Map" went to Mathieu Noble, Centre of Geographic Sciences (COGS), Nova Scotia, for his graphic portrayal of coal production in Nova Scotia (see p. 10). Cindy Prostak, also COGS, earned second prize for her topographic map of St. John's, Newfoundland. The "David Woodward Award for Best Electronic Map" went to Wes Jones, COGS, for his interactive map featuring the Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens. The winning maps can be viewed at www.natgeomaps.com/mapawards (scroll to CaGIS).

The Vision

Over the years, some 50 students have received cash prizes, atlases, and maps through this award program. The winning maps become part of the Library of Congress map collection, where they gain a nearly immortal life. The program has helped many students, but we are working to make it better.

I am grateful to Aileen Buckley, CaGIS Board, who is a driving force in improving and marketing the Map Design Competition—especially the student awards. I also wish to thank Ilse Genovese, ACSM Communications Director, for her impressive awards work, both on paper and online (see www.cartogis.org).

We are working to inform more academic departments and instructors about this program, so they can encourage their students to enter. Our shared vision on reaching out to university students is working, but it is a constant effort. This notwithstanding, it is an important effort to make, because today's students are the future of our discipline.

A final note: Students, of course, appreciate the cash prizes and atlases, but recognition of their work is what they value most. This is why National Geographic is involved and why I look forward to your comments on this outreach effort to students.