

This summer I worked with Karl Longstreth at the Clark Map Library, looking at Michigan's collection of Renaissance maps depicting the city of Rome. I learned a lot about cartography, methods of representing cities, and the history of printmaking, in addition to how a research library collects and displays its objects. Karl Longstreth and I worked with maps held in the Clark Library and Michigan's Special Collections, and we took a trip to the DIA to see their collection of prints. The maps often appeared within books written about Rome or in atlases that collected city imagery, but several were printed alone for use as wall hangings.

Some of the maps depicted Rome as it could have been seen at the time of the making of the images. The most common ways of doing this were showing the city from a bird's eye view or obliquely from an imaginary hill overlooking the city. Most interesting to me, however, were maps that reconstructed the appearance of Rome at the height of the Empire, over 1000 years before. Some printmakers worked like archaeologists, carefully analyzing the ruins of monuments, textual sources, and images on coins in order to recreate the ancient city. Other artists relied more on their imagination, taking creative license to make fantastic images of a lost imperial capital. To study these images I looked at traditional cartographic texts that described the technical process of mapmaking, but also new art historical research that studies the deliberate choices used by artists to represent a place.

One of my main projects was writing a report on the *De Disegni delle piu illustri città, et fortezze del Mondo*, an atlas of city images made by Giulio Ballino in 1569. The book contains 55 images of cities, from Venice to Tenochtitlan, four of which depict Rome. This is an early city atlas, and the images differ wildly without a standard method of representing each city. During my internship I researched the origin of each image and tracked how it was copied in the following decades. At the end of the summer I scanned the book for online viewing and wrote up a report on my research for use in the library.

I learned a lot from this summer in the Clark Library, and it was a great opportunity to have hands on access to these centuries-old objects. I enjoyed working with maps and I hope to continue learning about city representation in the future.