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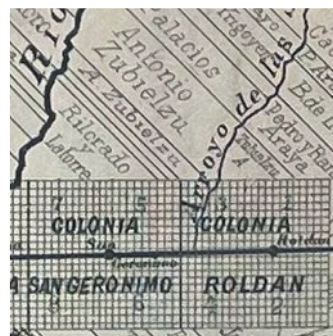
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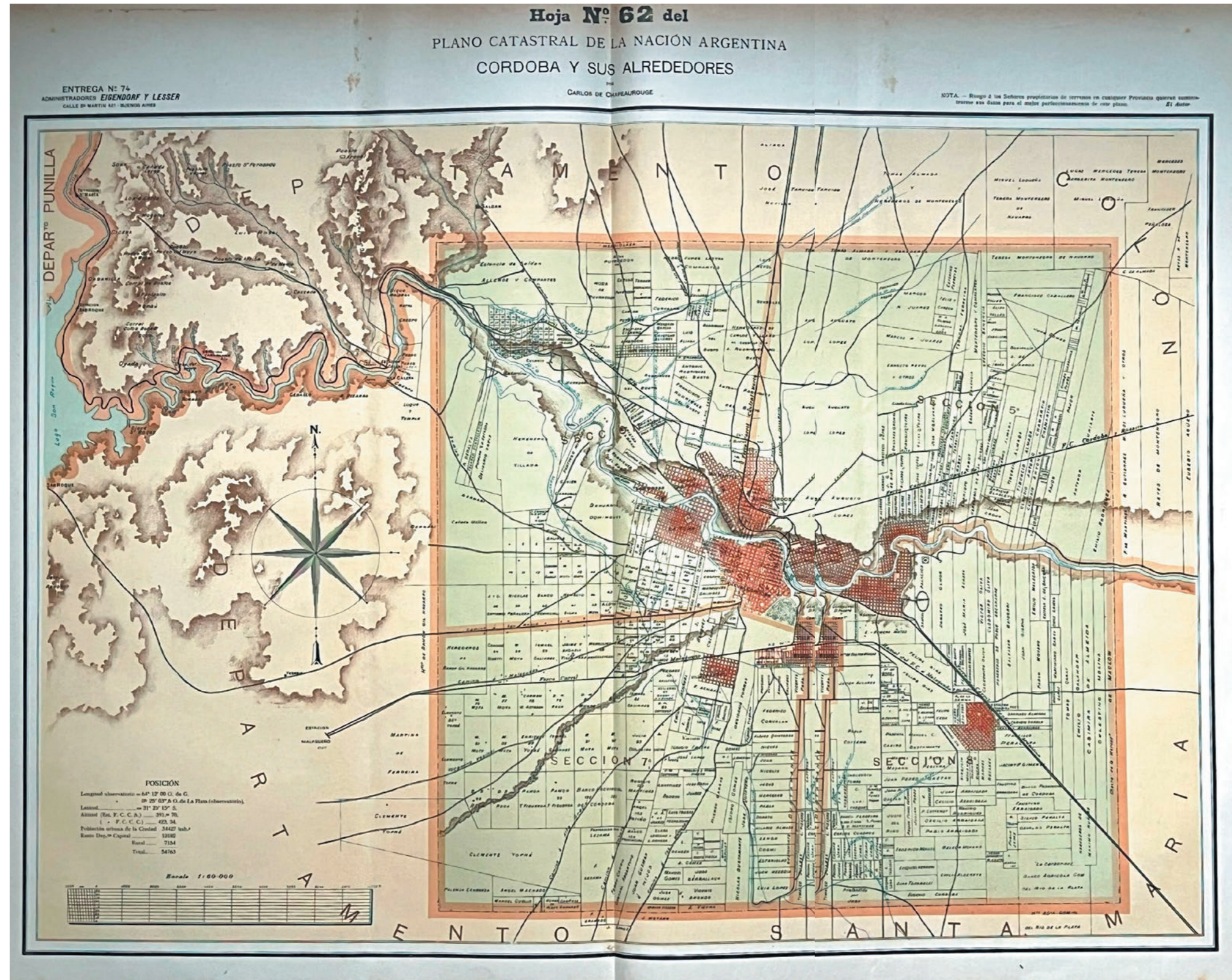
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Front cover 'Opulent Sicily' part of the
early seventeenth-century frescos at
the Gallery of Maps in the Salzburg
Residenz.



editorial control to achieve substantial (but not complete – see below) consistency between the different sheets. Every page confirms his authorship, with the inscription PLANO CATASTRAL DE LA NACION ARGENTINA POR CARLOS DE CHAPEAUROUGE proclaiming his name from the top of each sheet.

The Atlas was printed by the prominent Buenos Aires firm of Compania Sud-Americana de Billetes de Banco who, as well as printing banknotes, was responsible for important maps such as Rohde’s map of Patagonia ‘Mapa Parcial ... entre latitud 35 hasta 42 Sud y longitud 62 hasta 74 Oeste’ (1889) and Chapeaurouge’s later ‘Plano Catastral de la Provincia de Mendoza’ (1910). While their name only appears on the index sheet, the quality and consistency of printing and its similarity to their named works confirms that they printed the entire Atlas. Eigendorf & Lesser of Buenos Aires were appointed to publish the Atlas and their name appears on every page, where they are variously described as administrators, distributors or agents for the Atlas at three different addresses. At first sight they were an improbable choice because they were arms dealers, suppliers of naval and military materials to the Argentine and neighbouring governments. However, as the rear cover of their 1899 catalogue for automatic pistols points out, they were also provisioners to telegraph and railway companies.²⁶ Having evidently established a nationwide distribution network and contacts with potential purchasers such as the national and provincial governments, railway companies and local landowners, the firm was well placed to distribute the instalments of Chapeaurouge’s Atlas.

Notwithstanding some points of detail discussed in the following paragraph, it is clear that Chapeaurouge strove for an accurate depiction of both the physical landscape and the ownership of the land, and there is ample evidence confirming his meticulous approach. He was presenting very specific information that could be verified against official sources, and his work had to command the confidence of landowners and their advisers as well as withstand scrutiny from provincial officials and real estate professionals. Comparison between his three maps of the province of Santa Fé (1872, redrawn 1883 and revised edition 1893) and the corresponding sheet from the Atlas (around 1900) two of which are shown in Figure 5, demonstrates how

Fig. 4 ‘Córdoba and its Surroundings’ (Sheet 62). Author’s collection.



each map was brought up to date to reflect a decade of change in land ownership resulting from sales, inheritance, insolvency and sub-division as well as the grant of new holdings. On each occasion this necessitated consulting and noting multiple records of land dispositions and then recording each one on a small-scale map.

Consistent with publication over several years, there are minor design differences between sheets which, without diminishing its overall quality, suggest the absence of consistent editorial control. These include differences in typeface, use of colour, whether the names of provinces or the numbers of adjacent sheets are indicated in sheet margins, as well as the occasional omission of time and latitude relative to Córdoba (sometimes additionally given for Buenos Aires). There are further suggestions that some sheets may have been prepared in haste. The scale of the maps only appears on Sheets 58 and 65; on the city maps of Formosa (Sheet 91), and of Resistencia and Rawson (Sheet 90) the scale is misstated to be 1:1000 rather than the correct 1:100,000. Space left on the map of Buenos Aires (Sheet 89) for the inclusion of a table giving its position and population remains blank; an *entrega* number is missing from Sheet 59 and duplicated on sheets 27 and 34. The *entrega* number had to be corrected on Sheets 16, 27, 42, 48 and 72. Mistakes are over-printed on Sheet 23 to correct marginal province names and on Sheet 60 to correct the names of *departamentos*. There are also some discontinuities such as changes in depiction of elevation such as between adjoining sheets such as 19 and 26, and a railway disappearing off the edge of the map between Sheets 59 and 60, reflecting different dates of publication.

The sources that Chapeaurouge used are not recorded, but will certainly have included the provincial land registries as well as earlier maps and surveys.²⁷ Comparison with similarly scaled contemporary maps such as Lange's 'Mapa de la Provincia de Catamarca' (1893), Lavana's 'Mapa de las Provincias de Salta y Jujuy y Puna de Atacama' (1900), Nolte's 'Plano Catastral de la Provincia de Entre-Ríos' (1903) and P. Neumeyer's 'Plano Catastral de las Gobernaciones La Pampa, Rio Negro, Neuquen y El Chubut' (c. 1905) shows not only that Chapeaurouge's

presentation is generally clearer, but also sufficient differences in the inclusion of places, their allocated names and the spelling of those names to confirm that while Chapeaurouge may have consulted such maps (or, more likely, their sources), he did not simply copy them.²⁸

A similar observation applies to Chapeaurouge's mapping of adjacent countries. In the absence of comparable detail, the physical landscape predominates, which the Atlas renders differently to other maps consulted. For instance, the Atlas contains less detail than shown in Wisner de Morgernstern's 'Carte Topographique de la Republique de Paraguay' (1873), roughly the same detail as Meliton Gonzalez's 'Carta Geografica de la Republica Oriental de Uruguay' (1900) and contrasts somewhat unfavourably with the more up-to-date use of contours adopted in Franz Germann's 'Mapa de la Republica de Bolivia' (1904).

The contents of the Atlas

When bound the Atlas weighs a substantial 10 kilos (22 lbs) and measures 62 x 43 cm (24.5 x 17 in). It comprises a title page, an index sheet and 118 double-spread sheets, of which 88 are topographical maps covering the entire South American peninsula southwards of 19 degrees, seventeen contain town plans and thirteen comprise cross-sections. Two sheets were never published – what would have been 82 and 113.

A short notice in the top right corner of each page contains the author's request for landowners to send in information to improve the map. Each sheet also displays two numbers. The first is the page number, for instance **Hoja N° 62**, ('hoja' meaning sheet), set in bold, variously in lower case or capitalised at the top of each sheet. The second is a number in the top left corner indicating the sequence of issue, for example ENTREGA 74, showing that Sheet 62 was the 74th to be issued (see Fig. 4). The delivery number enabled publishers and subscribers to keep track of individual sheets as they arrived, while the page number was needed to ensure the completed work was bound in the correct order. The delivery number was sufficiently important for it to be corrected on the five sheets where it was misnumbered.

Each topographical sheet covers an area measuring 245 x 340 km (153 x 212 miles) containing 83,300 square km (32,512 square miles) within printed margins measuring approximately 49 x 69 cm (19.5 x 27 in). The margins contain the numbers of adjacent sheets as well as degrees of longitude (east or west of Buenos Aires) and of latitude, together with the



Fig. 5.1 Detail from 'Province of Santa Fé', the area around Rosario, 1872. Copyright © British Library Board.

Fig. 5.2 Detail from 'Province of Santa Fé', the area around Rosario, 1900 from the Atlas. (Sheet 46). Author's collection.