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# A Retrospective Look at National Geographic Magazine's Mountain Depictions in Maps, Panoramas and Perspective Views

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## **Abstract**

National Geographic Magazine has been publishing maps since its earliest issue in 1888. Through its coverage of mountaineering history and global exploration the magazine has needed to map vertical terrain. As early as its third issue (July 1889), it had published its first map with relief as well as an article discussing relief depiction. The magazine has gone on to publish work by such luminaries as Bradford Washburn (supplement maps of Mt. Everest, Mt. Kennedy, and the Grand Canyon), Heinrich Berann, Tibor Tóth, John Bonner as well as new artists such as Eckhard Zeidler. I propose to critically examine the magazine, map output with a focus on mountain depiction in maps, panoramas and perspective views. I will discuss the magazine attempts at integrating cartographic approaches and influences from both sides of the Atlantic. I will catalogue both the successful and less so methods and discuss highlights from the magazine's pages while identifying design solutions and techniques that may still be of interest to 21<sup>st</sup> century cartographers.