



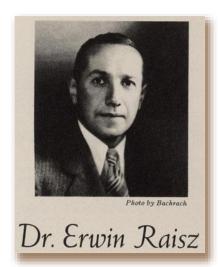
## A Forgotten Atlas of Erwin Raisz: "Atlas de Cuba"



ICA European Symposium on CARTOGRAPHY

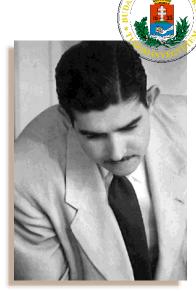
José Jesús Reyes Nunez Eötvös Loránd University Department of Cartography and Geoinformatics Budapest – 2015

#### The Authors:



Erwin J. Raisz (Levoča /Lőcse/ 1893 – Bangkok 1968)

Gerardo Canet (Havana 1911 – Miami 2011)



- 1914: Royal Polytechnicum in Budapest
- 1923–1929: Columbia University (New York).
- 1931: Institute of Geographic Explorations of Harvard University
- 1938: First edition of "General Cartography"
- 1939: "Landform Map of the United States"
- 1962: First edition of "Principles of Cartography"

- Geographer & economist: University of Havana (Cuba), Harvard University (USA)
- 1945–1949: Institute of Geographic Explorations at Harvard University
- 1949–1959: Commission on Cartography of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History.
   President of the Panamerican Committee of Charts and Special Maps of the same institute.

#### First map made by Canet and Raisz



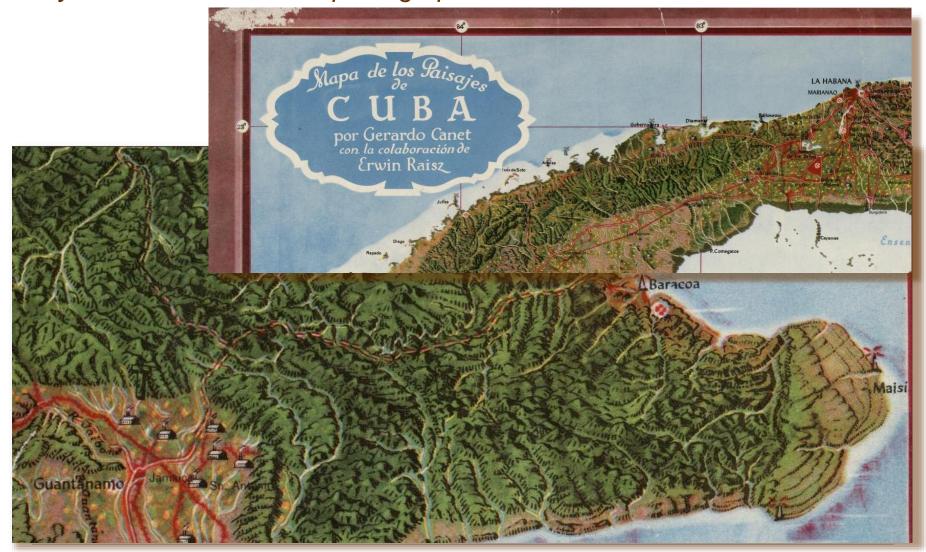
- Mapa de los paisajes de Cuba (Map of Landscapes of Cuba)
  - Published in 1945
  - Scale: 1:1 977 896
  - Size: 151 x 57 cm
  - A revised version was annexed to the "Atlas de Cuba" in 1949



#### First map made by Canet & Raisz



The map is the result of "a series of flights over the Island and the analysis of numerous color photographs taken from the air"



- Bilingual atlas (Spanish & English)
- 64 pages
- 70 maps & annexed map (Mapa de los paisajes de Cuba)
- Print run: ?

#### Introduction:

"The inspiration was provided by the distinguished Cuban geographer, Professor Salvador Massip, with whom the idea for such an atlas originated and on whose advice the author went to Harvard University to complete his cartographic studies ... to thank the close collaboration with the well-known cartographer, Dr. Erwin Raisz, at Institute of Geographical Exploration."





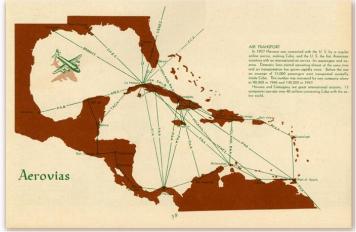
### H NYEGY

- Data about maps:
  - 64 maps with only two colours and 6 colour maps
  - Graphic scale on 21 maps: scales of maps between 1:2 220 000 and
    1: 5 900 000. Only one map (Standard of living, pp. 30–31) approx.
    1:2 000 000

59 maps represented Cuba, 6 maps the Caribbean area, 2 maps



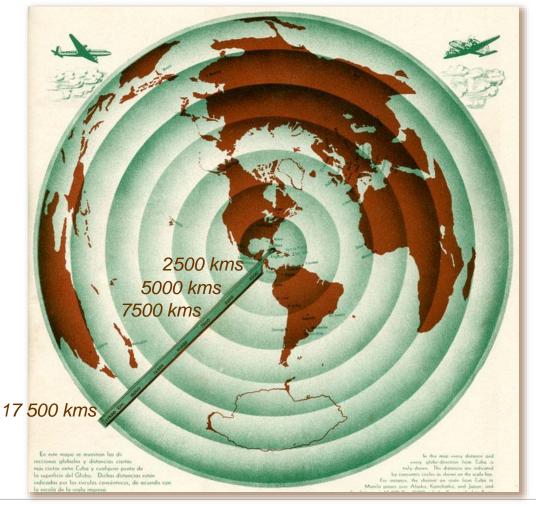
America, 2 world maps and 1 map of Havana and surrounds





34 themes in five groups or chapters:

Introduction: Cuba, center of the Americas; The world around Cuba



The world around Cuba (p. 5)



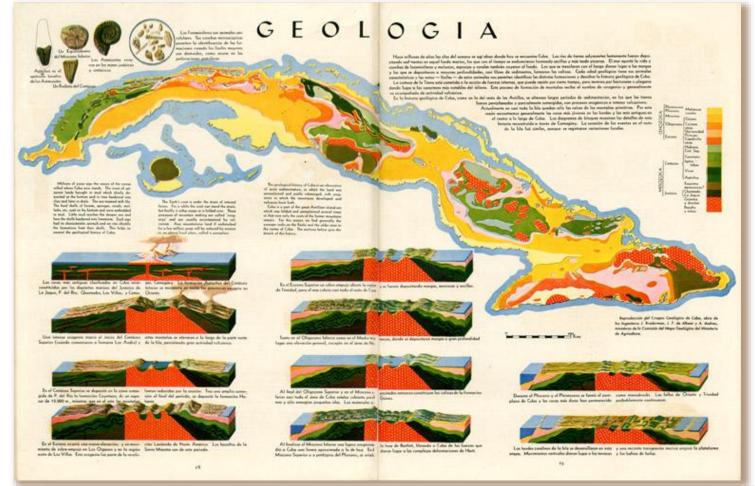
 History: Discovery, conquest and colonization; Colonial Cuba; Revolutionary Cuba



British occupation of Havana in 1762 (p. 9)



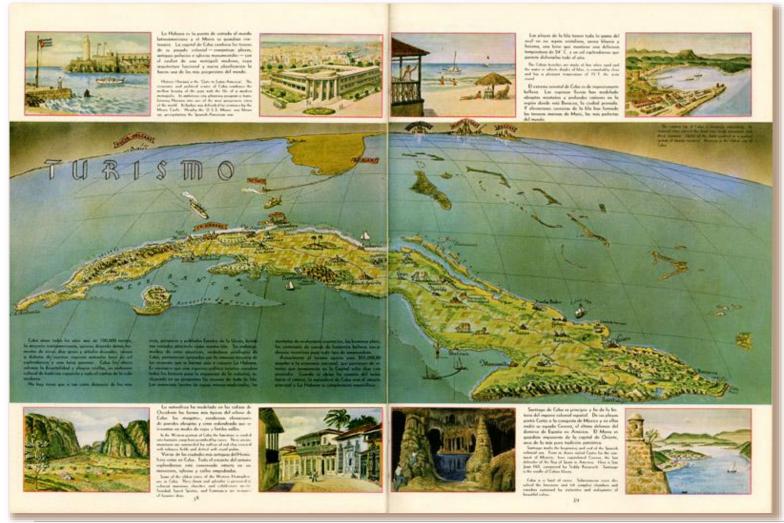
Earth Sciences (Physical Geography): Climate; Hurricanes;
 Magnetism, gravity and earthquakes; Oceanography; Geology;
 Geomorphology; Soils; Forestry; Fisheries; Vegetation



Geology (pp. 18–19)

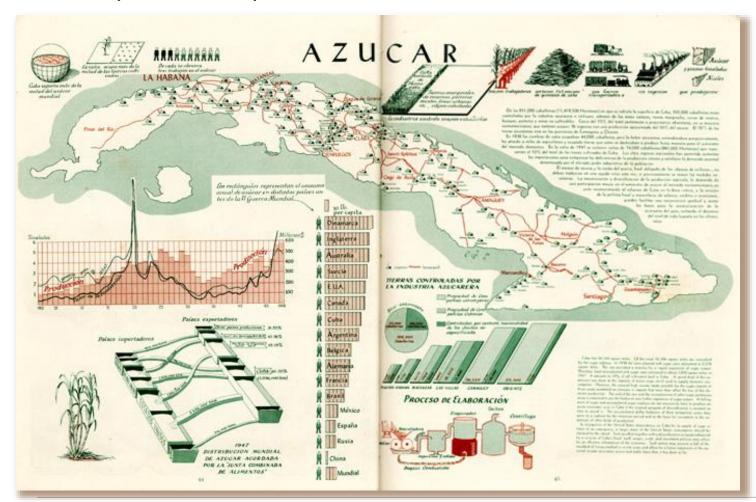


 Society: Population; Standard of living; Health; Social composition; Government; Tourist trade; Education



Tourism (pp. 38–39)

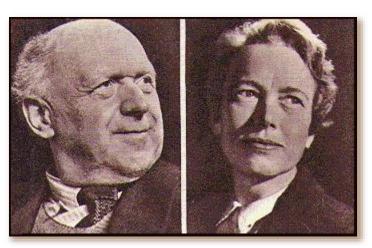
 Economy: Agriculture; Sugar; Minerals; Tobacco; Coffee; Winter vegetables; Fruits; Other crops; Livestock; Industries; Communications; Import and Export



Sugar (pp. 44–45)

- Simultaneous use of maps, charts, graphics and texts
- Didactic presentation of scientific data an atlas useful and interesting for professionals and non-professional users (Introduction, p. 3):

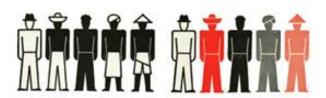
"We have presented the results of our labor in graphical form. An old Chinese proverb says: 'A picture says more than a thousand words'."

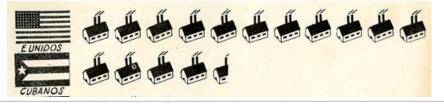


Otto & Marie Neurath

Otto Neurath's influence:

ISOTYPE (International System of Typographic Picture Education)



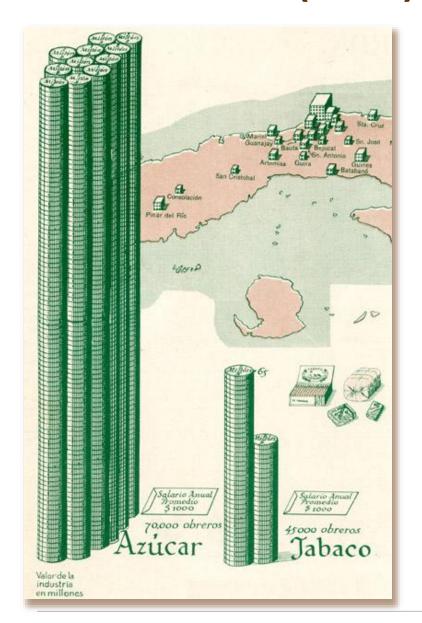


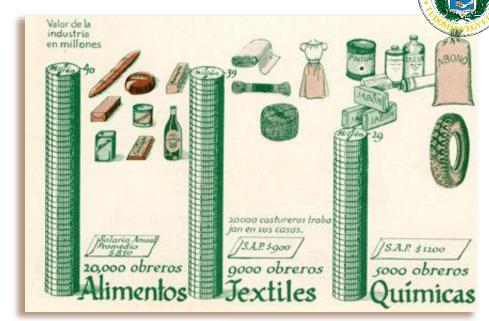
Canet (1940)



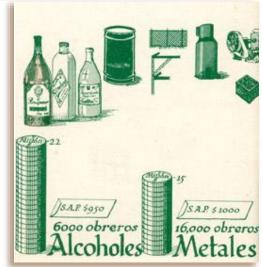
Beef cattle (p. 54)



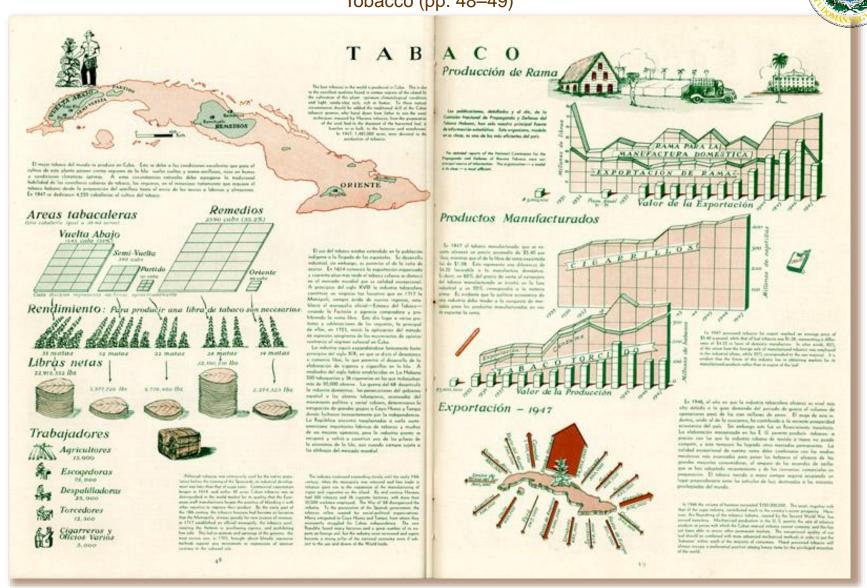




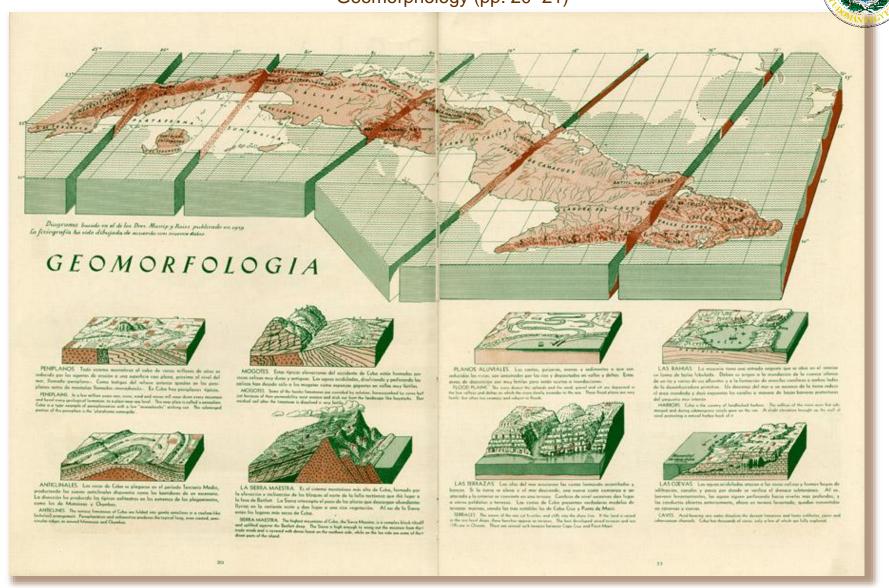
Industrial sectors (p. 56)



Tobacco (pp. 48-49)



Geomorphology (pp. 20–21)



#### A controversy on the Atlas de Cuba

- Raisz and Canet (1949, Introduction, p. 3): "Our objective is to give a living picture of Cuban geography as far as possible in 64 pages"
- Did Raisz and Canet consider their atlas a /simplified, modest, non-traditional/ national atlas?
- Erwin Raisz (1962, Principles of Cartography textbook, National Atlases, p. 101): Almost every country of Europe, in addition to Mexico, the Central American republics, CUBA, Brazil, Argentina, the French colonies, Morocco, Tunis, the Congo, Egypt, India, Japan, China, Australia, Tanganyika, Ghana, etc published such atlases...
- Official Cuban scientific community and government:

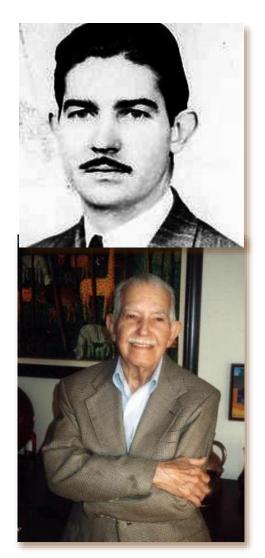
The first National Atlas of Cuba was published in 1969 in collaboration with Russian specialists.



National Atlas of Cuba (1969)

#### A controversy on the Atlas de Cuba





Canet at Harvard (1945) and in Miami (200...)

#### Why?

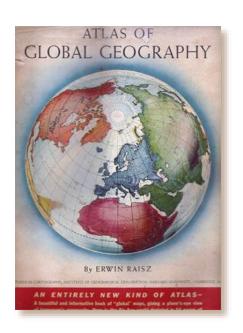
- Before 1959 Canet supported the revolutionary activities led by Fidel Castro
- 1959 Vice-President of the Agricultural and Industrial Development Bank of Cuba, member of the National Board of Tourism Development
- 1960 Differences with the government
- 1961 Emigrated to the United States
- After 1961 expert on development in the Organization of American States

A work unknown for the new Cuban generations after 1959...

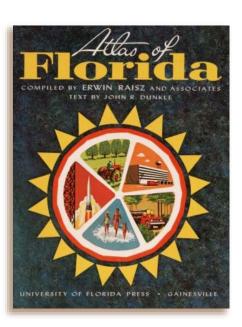
#### A controversy on the Atlas de Cuba

International valuation of the atlas has grown over the years:

 Erwin Raisz created only three atlases in his professional life: Atlas of Global Geography (1944), Atlas de Cuba (1949) and Atlas of Florida (1964)





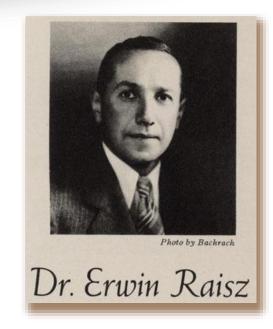


Small number of copies that have stood the test of time: ?





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