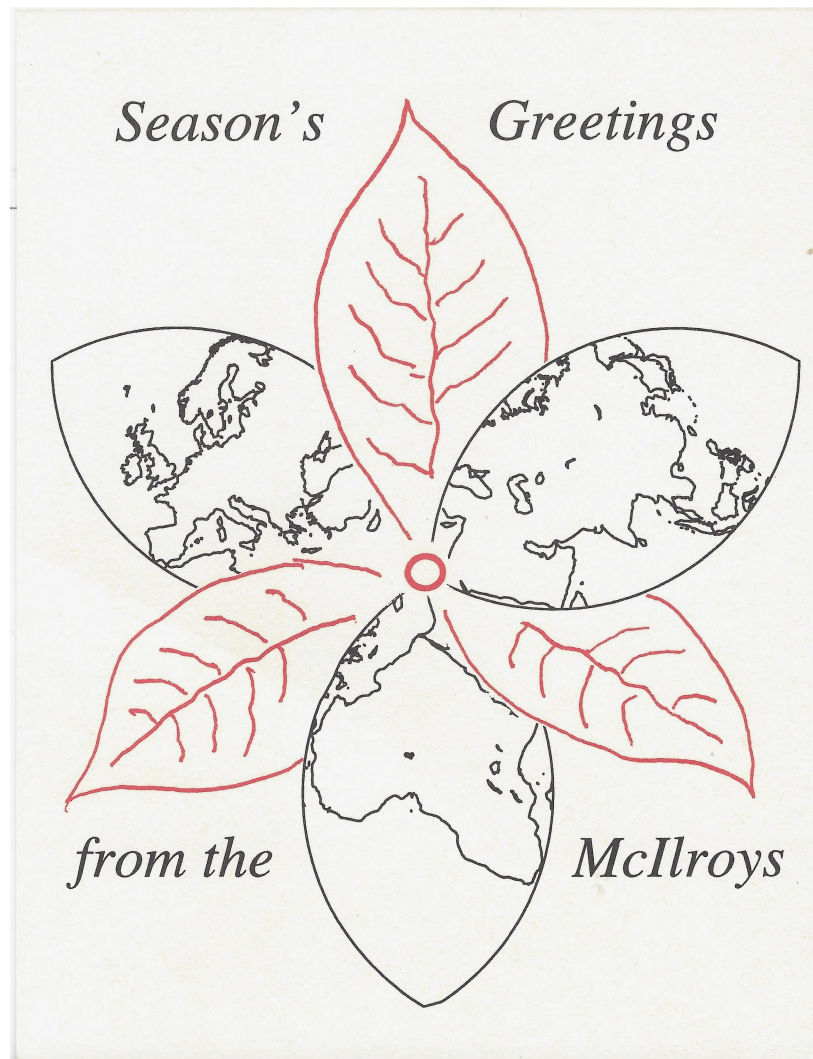


Conformal Lenses



Europe, Asia, and Africa in a trefoil around Jerusalem, after Heinrich Bunting, *Itinerarium Sacrae Scripturae*, Magdeburg, 1582. Unequal circles are conformally stretched into leaves.

Each continent was enclosed in a circle that passes through Jerusalem, then conformally transformed into a lens shape. Though this transform is well known in mathematics, it is seldom, if ever, used in cartography.

Bunting's trefoil was bare. He would have been no more aware of poinsettia, a New World plant, than of conformal mapping.