



The outline of Florida is one of the most internationally recognized peninsulas in the world, primarily due to its popularity as a vacation destination. It is also one of the first early recognizable landmarks in the age of discovery/exploration during the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The word *Florida* is Spanish for “land of flowers” and is, today, the southernmost contiguous state in the United States. The state is bordered to the west by the Gulf of Mexico, to the northwest by Alabama, to the north by Georgia, to the east by the Atlantic Ocean, and to the south by the Straits of Florida. However, the label “Florida” often referred to the entire southeast region of present-day United States, and, over time was reduced to its current outline. This outline, while distinctive as a protruding peninsula on the newly discovered continent, would take over two hundred years after its initial discovery to reach a cartographically accurate outline.



**Florida before Columbus:** There are some historians that believe there is cartographic evidence of the Florida peninsula before its European “discovery” in the late 15<sup>th</sup>/early 16<sup>th</sup> century. Among those proponents is Gunnar Thompson. In his book, *The Friar's Map of Ancient America 1360 A.D.* (pages 227-239), he presents the following cartographic “evidence”.



Albertin DeVirga 1414



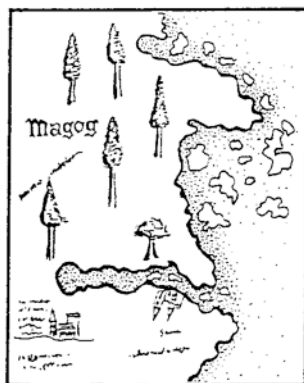
Yale Vinland Map 1440



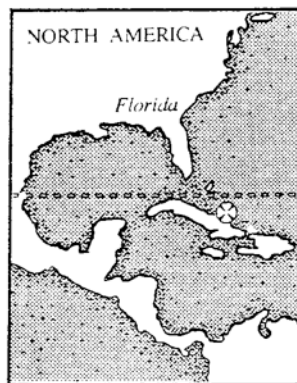
Florentine Portolan 1447



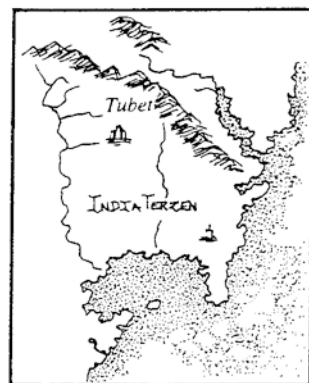
Paolo Toscanelli 1457



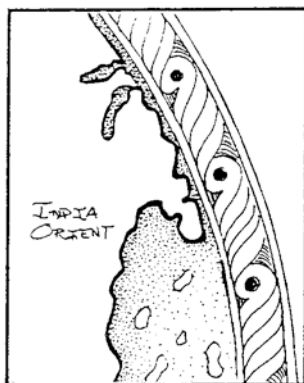
Florida on Modern Atlas



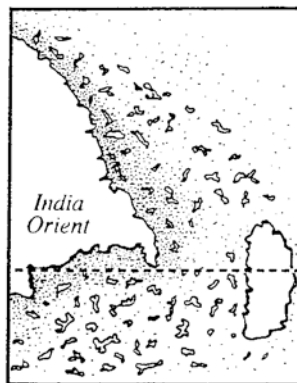
Frau Mauro 1459



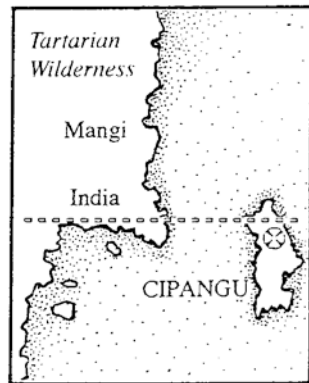
Henricus Martellus 1489



Henricus Martellus 1490

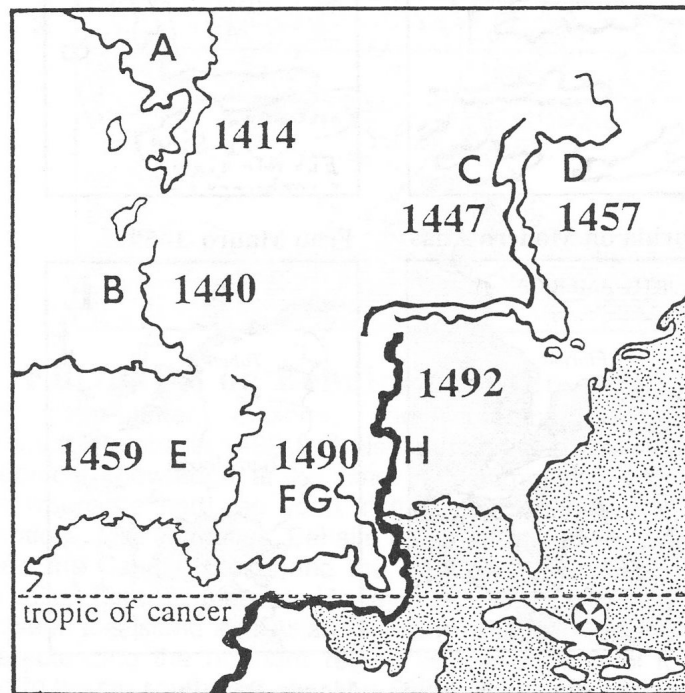


Martin Behaim 1492



According to Thompson numerous maps available to medieval mariners showed the relative position of Florida in ancient times. The earliest version, a map by the English Franciscan, Nicholas of Lynn ca. 1380, survives in a later 1414 copy by the Venetian cosmographer Albertin deVirga (*monograph* #240). Many cartographers had access to the friar's manuscript and surveys which he called *The Inventio Fortunatae*. This book is frequently referenced as a map source as late as the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Variations of the original survey appeared with modifications from 1414 through the mid-1500's. These maps showing an Asian peninsula having the right characteristics for Florida (a southeastward tending peninsula adjacent to an enormous gulf with large isles in the western Atlantic) confirm, according to Thompson, that European knowledge of the

North American peninsula was widespread and enduring, although most Europeans erred in believing the overseas land was either Asia or connected to Asia. Some referred to the region as *Farthest India* or *India Superior*, names used by classical scholars; others mistakenly believed it was the Asian coast identified by Marco Polo. The Lisbon globe-maker, Martin Behaim, was content to call the northern continent the *Tartary Wilderness*. Toscanelli's estimate (*monograph* #252) of the distance across the ocean, some 3,000 miles, and his wilderness coastline approximating the actual position of Florida are too accurate for mere coincidence according to Thompson.



- A. Albertin DeVirga 1414
- B. Yale Vinland Map 1440
- C. Florentine Planisphere 1447
- D. Paolo Toscanelli 1457
- E. Fra Mauro 1459
- F. Henricus Martellus 1490
- G. Henricus Martellus 1490
- H. Martin Behaim 1492

target shows Columbus landing in Cuba, 1492

Thompson's composite chart of coastlines of territory presumed to be East Asia with a southeastern peninsula called the *Horn of Asia* shows the peninsula moving steadily towards the actual location of Florida. The target symbol marks the Columbus landing site on the coast of Cuba in 1492. At this location, he took celestial measurements using an astrolabe, and he wrote in his ship's log that he had reached land where he expected to find *Cipangu* [Japan]: "On the globes which I saw and in the paintings of *mappaemundi*, it (Japan) is in this vicinity." Wilbur Garrett, Editor of *National Geographic* (1986), noted that Columbus had sailed approximately 3,000 miles to the place where Martin Behaim's globe (see *monograph* #258) showed the location of Japan. Behaim's coastline from his globe of 1492 (H) is indicated by the heavy black line at the center of the illustration. Behaim's peninsula was about 1,000 miles too far west—which isn't that far off from the true position of Florida. The real coast of Asia is another 12,000 miles farther west. Historians generally assume that Columbus reached this land purely by accident. However, the fact that European cartographers sequentially modified the location of the southeastern peninsula and its adjacent isle (Cuba or



*Antilia*) reveals that, according to Thompson, Columbus reached lands that had already been identified in physical reality, and he knew where to find them due west from the Canary Isles along the Tropic of Cancer for about 3,000 miles. We know that there were many Portuguese voyages into the Atlantic during the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Historians typically assume that they did not amount to anything. But the fact is that maps betray the navigational successes of those voyages in spite of a secrecy policy which cloaked Portuguese expeditions.

In addition to those maps represented in the figures above, Thompson also includes The Yale *Vinland* map of 1440 (#243), and the *Genoese* map of 1457 (#248).

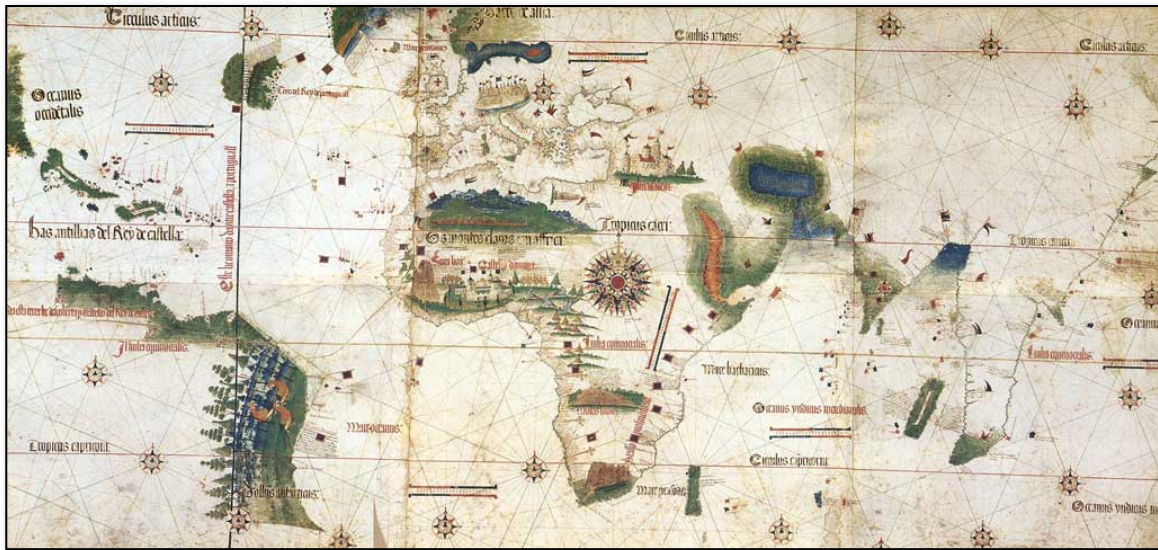
Needless to say, not everyone agrees with the hypothesis presented by Thompson and others who espouse these theories of pre-Columbian mapping of the Florida peninsula. As you will see below, not everyone even agrees with the representation of what appears to be the Florida peninsula on the early 16<sup>th</sup> century maps. The problem often lies with evaluating old maps with 21<sup>st</sup> century knowledge and perceptions, rather than more rigorous scientific and analytical research into contemporary 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century knowledge and perception.

Below is a comparison of the depiction of the Florida peninsula on 12 selected early 16<sup>th</sup> century maps (from David O. True's article).





### The Cantino map of 1502



*Chart for the navigation of the islands lately discovered in the parts of India, known as the "Cantino World Map", #306*

By 1500 the North American coastline remained fragmentary, because up to this time probes by the Europeans had been made only to the West Indies, Nova Scotia-Newfoundland, part of the South American coast, and possibly Florida. Portions of this explored area were recorded on manuscript and printed maps, but gaps in the coastline were not filled in until further explorations looking for a route to the Far East took place during the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The unknown Portuguese cartographer of the *Cantino* map divides North America into three disconnected landmasses, widely separated from one another:

- *Punte de Asia* [Greenland?]
- *Terra del Rey de portugall* [Newfoundland?]
- the land to the northwest of *yssabella* [Cuba], which has been variously interpreted as representing Florida, Yucatan, and unintentional repetition of Cuba, or a peninsula in East Asia.

A significant point to be kept in mind in the discussion of the maps of *Cantino* and *Caveri* (#307) and their chief derivative, the *Waldseemüller* world map of 1507 (#310), is that, whether or not they regarded Newfoundland as an island, they showed Verrazzano and his contemporaries no connection of solid land between Newfoundland and the Florida landmass portrayed on them. On the contrary, the maps of this group display between Florida and Newfoundland a large area of open water, offering unimpeded passage to an explorer seeking a route to the China coast. The maps of this *Lusitano-Germanic* group of the next twenty years or more, manuscript and printed, pictured this relationship one to another of the Newfoundland and Florida areas.

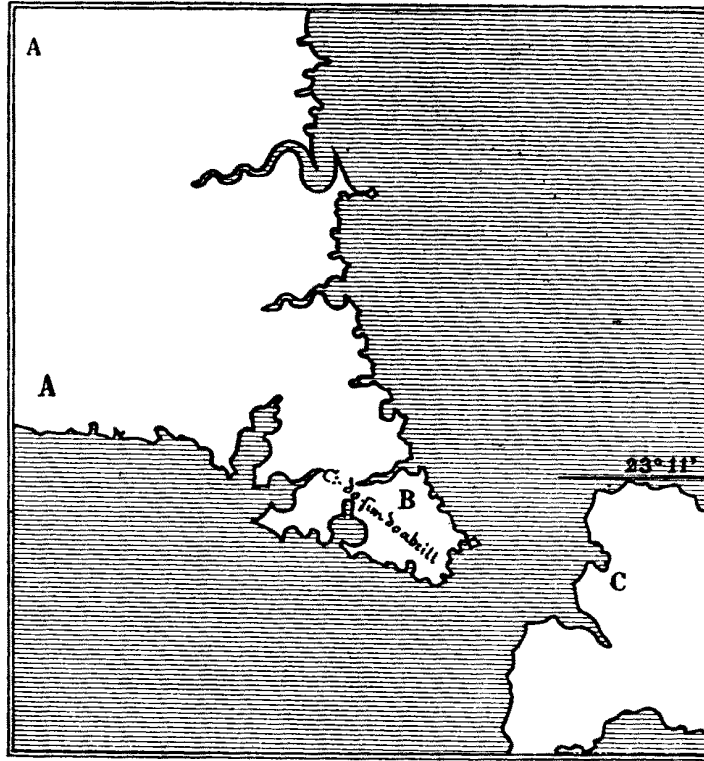
Northwest of *Ilha yssabella* on the *Cantino* map a coastline is laid down marked *Parte de Assia* and bearing names from Columbus' first two voyages. This area, which is incomplete and partially off the map, perhaps is the greatest unsolved cartographic puzzle of the period. Although *yssabella* strongly resembles Cuba, and the peninsula to

the northwest could be Florida, there are also several theories to the contrary. One is that the anonymous Portuguese mapmaker confused Spanish reports of the configuration of the newly discovered islands and duplicated Cuba; first as the island but also as the incompletely explored area to the northwest. Another interpretation considers *yssabella* to be Cuba but regards the peninsula resembling Florida as the Asian mainland Columbus and Cabot believed they had reached.



*Could this be one of the first depiction of the Florida peninsula on a map?*





If we are seeing Cuba (C) and Florida (B), no one knows from whom this information came, as Florida was not formally discovered by the Europeans until 1513. There is speculation that an early Amerigo Vespucci voyage may have been the source, or that an unknown Portuguese pilot could have unofficially sailed through Spanish waters before 1500 and coasted Florida. The islands at the southern extremity strongly indicate a knowledge of the Florida keys and Tortugas; the general peninsula-like shape of the landmass at the southern extremity of most of the maps of this type or group and the general northerly direction of the Atlantic coast (the Florida coast actually trends northwest, not northeast; Savannah, Georgia is almost a degree west of Miami) support the belief that the landmass represents the southeast part of the American continent.

(see monograph #306)

## The Caveri/Canerio Map, 1502-06

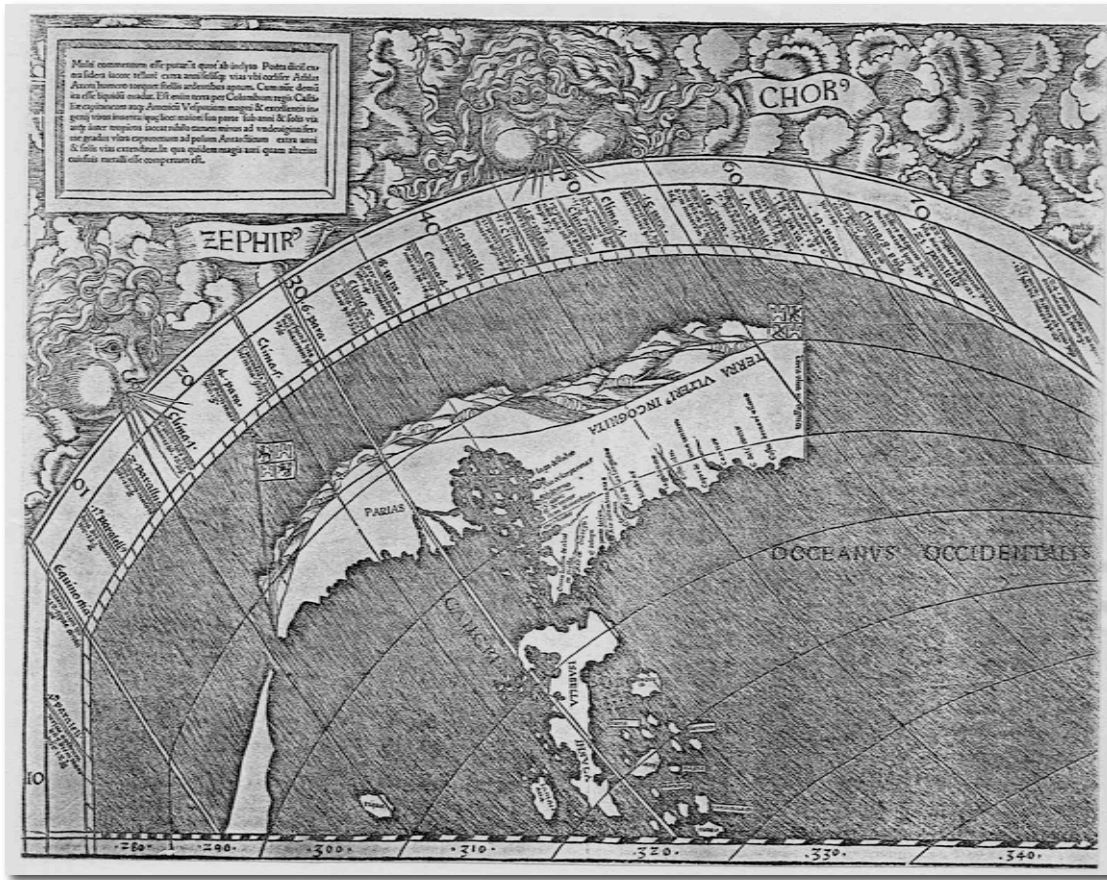


In North America Nicolo Caveri [Canerio] presents a new delineation of the Gulf of Mexico, with the peninsulas representing Yucatan and Florida. Although the relationships of Cuba, Yucatan and Florida are only partly correct, Caveri's concept of the Gulf region was widely used for the next twenty years. (see monograph #307)





## The 1507 Waldseemüller Map



Detail: North America – Florida, Gulf of Mexico, the Caribbean

Waldseemüller places a land to the west of *Isabella Insula* [Cuba], as do many of the other mapmakers of his time, *La Cosa*, *Cantino*, *Ruysch* and *Caveri* (#305, #308, #313, #307). The mainland and peninsula northwest of Cuba have place names along both coasts even though it was not officially mapped or named (*Bemini*) until 1511 by Peter Martyr and not officially “discovered” and named (*Florida*) by Ponce de Leon in 1513. The entire mainland above the peninsula is named *Terra Ulteri Incognita* [unknown land] on this Waldseemüller map. This area may represent the coast of China copied from Marco Polo, and placed here in the belief that the new discoveries were in and near Asia. Contarini (#308) and Ruysch (#313) distinctly record their belief on their maps that the contemporary explorers had reached China, as does the Columbus map and the letter of Columbus explanatory of his fourth voyage record the same view (#303, #304). However, this view is not supported on the Waldseemüller map either by the place-names found in the area of the new discoveries, or by the overall visual image presented by the placement of the new discoveries as totally separated by some distance from Asia. On the other hand, navigators unknown to modern historians, may have sailed along the coast of Florida at this time. In this respect, Waldseemüller may have been led by the maps of *La Cosa*, *Caveri*, and *Cantino* to believe that this was at least a possibility, for he depicts a small portion of the northern mainland extending from the narrow strait in Central America to just north of *Terra Ulteri Incognita* [Florida]. Here the northern coast terminates abruptly with open sea beyond approximately 50 degrees, with Newfoundland again being shown as an island far to the east. This interpretation is very similar to both *Cantino* and *Caveri* and helped keep alive the possibility of a northern access to the as yet unnamed Pacific and, of course, the riches of far *Cathay*.

Minority opinions since 1858 have disagreed that this landmass represents North America, suggesting other possibilities, among them the Yucatan of Mexico, Cuba, and Asia. Some have seen this geography as a fabrication; others have been smart enough (or cautious enough) not to speculate at all on this matter. Donald McGuirk's article suggests that a number of these dissenting theories have all been partly correct: this landmass is Asia, Cuba and a fabrication, all in one. McGuirk places a lot of emphasis on the fact that, up to this time, no known European explorer had reported surveying this area (Gulf of Mexico, the Florida peninsula, etc.). However, if one examines the same landmass configuration on the earlier maps of *Cantino* (1502) and *Caveri* (1502-05) the similarities are very striking and represent, to me, the sources of the model chosen by Waldseemüller to depict this area.

The presence of a large number of unnamed islands is an interesting issue also. Historian Edward Luther Stevenson was of the opinion that the continental landmass depicted on the 1507 Waldseemüller map was North America. Despite this belief, however, he expresses the following sentiments regarding the many islands within “the Gulf of Mexico”:

The large gulf to the west of this peninsula bears an unmistakable resemblance to the Gulf of Mexico in outline. Here we have the only apparent indication that Canerio mistook the region for the extreme east [Asia]. In the numerous islands, promiscuously inserted and without name, there is the suggestion that he or the chart-maker he copied had knowledge of the account of Marco Polo in which that traveler relates what he had learned concerning the islands off the Asiatic coast.

With this statement, Stevenson suggests that the similar gulf depicted on the Waldseemüller map represents Marco Polo's *Gulf of Keinan*, south of the province of *Mangi*, in Asia.



In Spanish maritime circles, knowledge of the Caribbean, the Gulf of Mexico, Florida, and even much of the coast north of Florida (all of which fell within the Spanish maritime zone) was fairly complete by 1502-1504. In Peter Martyr's work (*Legatio Babylonica*) of 1511, Florida appears as *Beimeni*, while the *Stobnicza* map in the Ptolemy of 1512 (#319), gives a rough view of North America, similar to that found in the Ptolemy of 1513 (#320). The very early map attributed to Leonardo da Vinci (#327) shows *Florida* as an island, but since the map was not published, no inference can be drawn from it. The maps of 1511, 1512 and 1513 nevertheless must have been known to every intelligent person engaged in globe making. Some of the labels placed on the peninsula northwest of Cuba by various mapmakers (some as late as 1530) are:

- 13



- Cuba, because Columbus made his shipmates swear that they had reached the mainland of Asia when they were on the island of Cuba. Were they really on Florida (as shown on the 1516 map #320)?
- *Juana*, another name for Columbus' Cuba.
- Yucatan, because it is more to the west of Cuba (or *Isabella*) rather than more to the north as Florida is.
- *Paria*, which is actually on the north coast of South America.
- *Mangi*, which is actually eastern *Cathay* (or China).
- *Isabella*, which was the most common name of that time for the island now known as Cuba. Cuba was actually named "Cuba" by Juan de la Cosa in 1500 (#305).
- *Zoana Mela*, said to be a corruption of the name *Juana* (which was said to be Columbus' Cuba).
- *Terra de Cuba Asia Partis* [Land of Cuba part of Asia] which was the name that Waldseemüller put there on his 1516 *Carta Marina* (#320) because he had been criticized after 1507 for not giving due credit to Columbus. As stated above, Columbus made his crew swear that the area was part of the mainland of Asia. Waldseemüller also left the name America off of his 1513 and 1516 maps.
- No actual name, either, because they did not believe it was real or denial because any information they had was secret or anyone who explored it may have been in violation of the 1494 Treaty of Tordesillas. Sometimes the peninsula was completely left off of maps of the area or shown as a sort of island, as on the *Ruysch* map (#313).

This may have been based on information from the Taino Indians of Cuba who traded with the Florida peninsular Indians (Tequestas and/or Calusas). The existence of this land mass was what motivated the former Spanish governor of Puerto Rico, Juan Ponce de Leon, to sail there to claim the land for himself and look for gold and perhaps slaves. The King of Spain granted him the privilege to do so at his own expense after

having removed him as the head of the island of Puerto Rico (sometimes called *Juana*). The myth that Ponce de Leon was seeking a fountain of youth has been used as the explanation for his motivation to seek this land. The *Fontenadas Memoires* of 1579 however also mentions such a myth but it was said to be a river Jordan in a more northern location of the mainland. Stretching from Florida to the River Essequibo in the south and to Panama and the Yucatan in the west, the map provides an unparalleled picture of European (particularly Spanish) knowledge of the Western Hemisphere less than two decades after the its discovery by Christopher Columbus.

Writing at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the historian Henry Harrisse cogently explained why Florida must have been discovered before the official voyage of Ponce de Leon. According to his reasoning, Castilian pilots would have known of the existence of a large landmass to the northwest of Cuba, not just from the maps of Juan de la Cosa (#305), but also from Portuguese charts of the Caribbean. Harrisse points out that it would have extremely unlikely that maps showing a continent to the north and west of Florida were available in Italy and Germany, but that they would not have been known in Spain. Harrisse explains:

The first positive mention of countries to the west of the Lucayas islands visited by Spanish mariners about that time, is to be found in the map which accompanies certain issues of the first edition of certain works of Peter Martyr, published at Seville in 1511.

The reasons of a geographical character which prompted such attempts can easily be ascertained. The Castilian pilots knew of the existence of a northwestern continent, not only by the great maps of Juan de la Cosa, but also by Portuguese charts; for it is impossible that *mappamundi* of the type of Cantino and Canerio, which could be so easily obtained in Lisbon, and circulated in Italy and Germany, should have remained unknown to the Spaniards. The land, however, which haunted their imagination was supposed to be of a different type altogether, as the probability is that, with the conception of the value of things then prevalent, what they knew of our east coast was but little alluring to adventurers who were only in search of gold, pearls, and spice. They seem to have been led by the hope of discovering a number of imaginary islands, of which the Lucayan archipelago had given them a foretaste and idea, but surmised to be richer. And it was in their repeated endeavors to reach those insular regions that several bold mariners before Ponce de Leon, and afterwards that navigator himself, landed in Florida, which they then, and for a number of years, considered to be a mere island, though of vast size. But a distinction must be established at the outset. Different points of the *Floridean* [sic] peninsula were thus explored; these the Spanish pilots and cartographers believed to belong to separate islands. The *Isla Bimini*, *Bimene*, or *Beniny*, which seems to correspond with the most southern part of our Florida, was first seen and named, according to current information derived from the Lucayan Indians.

On the verso of the present map, Martyr wrote an epistle addressing Cardinal Ximenez. In it he expounded on the need to illustrate the text with a map. Importantly it includes the following allusion to the discovery of Florida:

“Ad septentrionem vero miras etiam terras micosque tractus reperunt quorum vestigia cerne dextrorsuz sculpta.” [At the north there have been discovered marvelous countries and lands, of which, on the recto [of the present leaf] see the engraved representation.]

It is particularly noteworthy that Martyr chose definite language to denote the actual discovery of these lands and to underline that his mapping represented a real place.

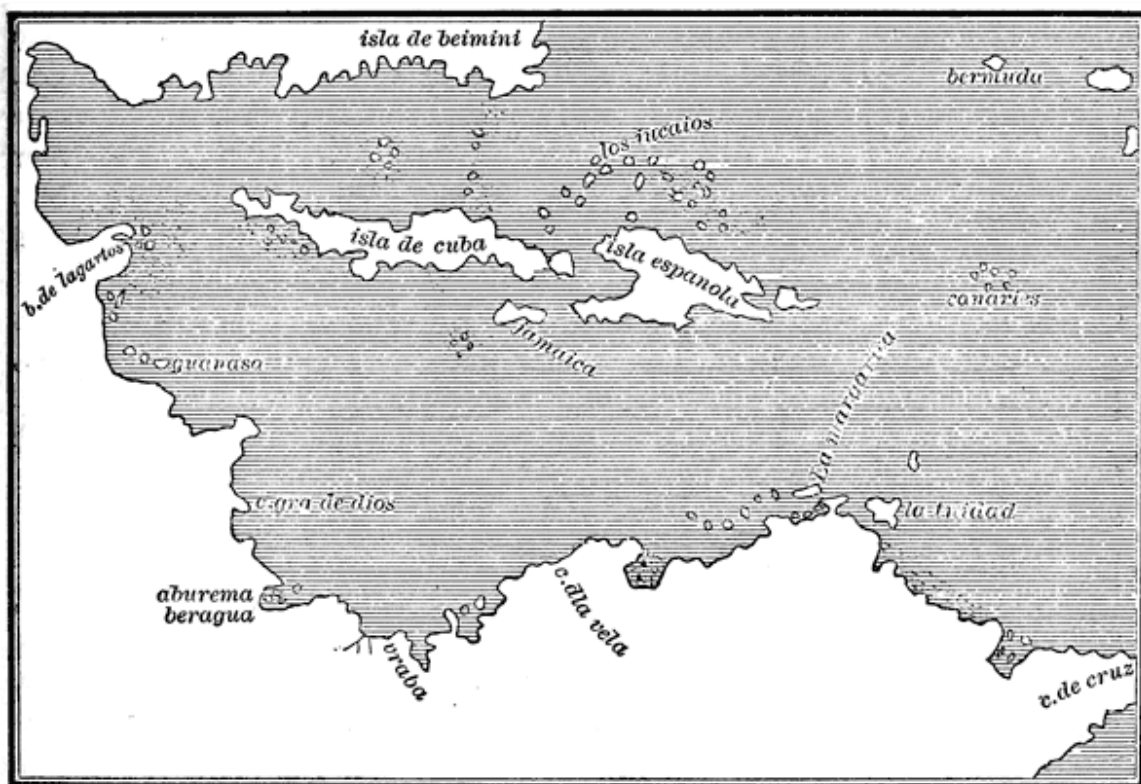


Both Las Casas and Herrera note that voyages to the lands north of Cuba and Lucayan archipelago happened around 1511 and that the knowledge of these voyages helped spur Ponce de Leon to explore the region. Later writing by Peter Martyr add some confusion to the precise dating of those voyages, which he seems to say happened after 1520. The most cogent appraisal of the available evidence is the aforementioned quoted from HARRISSE.

Given his position in the Spanish court, Martyr had access to the most up to date information and rumors available to the Spanish, and through his sources, what was also known to the other European powers at the time. Douglas Peck highlights the regard with which this information was held, not only by Martyr, but also by Ponce de Leon:

Peter Martyr, a learned historian and cosmographer in the Spanish court, undoubtedly had access to all the knowledge and reports from the Spanish discoveries, from spies, and from Portuguese, French, and English expeditions. Ponce de Leon probably did not have a copy of this map, but, as an aristocratic conquistador, he had access to the same sources of information used by Martyr to draw his map. The Martyr map was among the latest knowledge available at the time of Ponce de Leon's planned voyage, and it became a graphic picture of the "news" of which he spoke. The large landmass north of Cuba, labeled on the Martyr map as the *Isla de Beimeni parte*, was the Islands of Beniny and was Ponce de Leon's goal according to his patent.

Most importantly, the geography presented by Martyr is very good; while Florida is a bit wider than it is in reality, its placement vis-a-vis Cuba is correct, and the islands north of Cuba surely represent the Florida Keys and Cay Sal Bank.



## Freducci Map of 1515



This manuscript map is believed to be based on Ponce de Leon charts and is the first to use the name *Flor(i)da*. The oversize interior feature on the southeast coast of the peninsula is not named but resembles St. Lucie Inlet. The west coast ends short of Charlotte Harbor. (Archivo di Stato, Florence). The original map is located in the Royal Archives at Florence, Italy, and is called the *Carta Nautica di Conte Ottoananno Freducci d'Ancona*. From this remarkable map, assuming that the estimated date is approximately correct, one finds four major contributions to Florida history. It is probably the first map to bear the name *Florida*. Here also is the earliest appearance of any city of North America on a map, the present city of Miami. It also shows that the Herrera designations of latitude readings in connection with landings at various places by Ponce de Le6n were interpolated from much later sources. Furthermore, it helps to verify Sebastian

Cabot's statement that he rounded the Cape of Florida. The level of detail and accuracy shown here will not be seen again for another 200+ years. You will note that in many of the examples to follow that the shape of the Florida peninsular remained rather "boxy" and "squared-off" at its southern end.

On the Freducci map of Florida, *I. Florda* (sic) is the top name, here Florida is designated as an island, for this was the belief of some early explorers. The *Rio de Canoas* is identified by Dr. Cisco as the Indian River in the *Bulletin of the American Geographical Society*, 1913. The next place, on the map, reading down, is *Chantio* (*Cautio* in Kretschmer), the name that the Spanish historian Antonio de Herrera y Tordesillas said was given to Florida by the Lucayan Indians. *Pontad'Arcifes* is Point of Reefs, spelled *Arracifes* by Herrera. Herrera mentions the *Rio de la Cruz* [River of the Cross], designated by its cruciform shape on the *Freducci* map, stated to be Jupiter Inlet by Dr. Cisco: "No other inlet on the coast has three branching streams at its head." One could almost believe that it means Lake Okeechobee. The *Cabo de Corrientes* of Herrera is the *Cabo de Setos* [Cape of Pales] in *Freducci*. *Abacoa* was Abaida in Herrera, an Indian town near Lake Worth Inlet, according to Dr. Cisco. He identifies the *Rio Salado* [Salty River] with New River Inlet. Herrera in his account mentions two keys that are not on the *Freducci* map, Santa Marta and Pola. On the *Freducci* map are *El Nirda* and *Canbei*. One of the two Indian towns on the Keys, according to Fontaneda, was named *Guaragunbe* or *Guaragumbe*; perhaps all of these were what is now known as Matecumbe. *Los Martires* of both Herrera and *Freducci*, is a translation of the word *Cuchiyaga* of the Indians, as shown in Fontaneda's *Memoir*; it thus alludes to Indian tribulations, not those of Spaniards, who had not yet discovered the New World when the name was first used. Ponce merely translated the name already found in use on the Keys, though Herrera said it was bestowed upon them by Ponce. *Matanga* is in both Herrera and *Freducci*, it alludes to the killing of some Indians by Ponce on his first journey and contributes to the evidence that this *Freducci* map was compiled from Ponce de León sources to some extent. The two West Coast names, *Guchi* and *Stababa*, are not identifiable from the Herrera records.

*Chequiche* is spelled *Chequescha* by Herrera, and this is the well known Indian town *Tequesta*, generally stated to have been situated on the Miami River, where it empties into the bay. Ponce may have stopped off to visit it on his way to the West Coast, as some authors report, but Herrera definitely stated that he arrived at this place on Sunday, July 2, 1513. This is the earliest mention of Miami, by its ancient Indian name. Miami thus becomes the first city on the continent of North America to have been definitely visited by Ponce, or by any other discoverer of note, and to have been identified by a substantiating map. The name Miami came from *Mayaimi*, equally as old at the name *Tequesta*. It was the Calusa name for Lake Okeechobee, meaning "big water."

Herrera interpolated all these locations very much later from what, in his day, were modern charts. As far as they are used by themselves to verify Ponce's landings, they are without value. They express Herrera's opinion written nearly a century later.

Three compelling reasons for believing that Sebastian Cabot reported in 1512 of having rounded the Cape of Florida, either with his father on one of his two trips, or on an expedition of his own in 1508, as advanced by Williamson in his *Voyages of the Cabots*, are contained in this account by Peter Martyr. If Cabot had not known of Florida, he would not have been able to state that by following the coastline he "had the Island of Cuba on his left hand." To know of currents counter to the Gulf Stream off the South



Florida shores before Ponce ever saw the country, took competent first hand information. This is a remarkable detail that too many Cabot historians overlook.

The third reason is the one to which the *Freducci* map makes another contribution. Cabot said that he sailed as far south as to be parallel with *Fretum Herculeum* [Strait of Gibraltar] and of returning from that latitude to England. On a modern map, this would be from the coast of North Carolina. So the Cabot experts state that Cabot sailed south to Carolina and returned from there, instead of realizing that 36° at his time was, on the charts and maps, in the Straits of Florida.

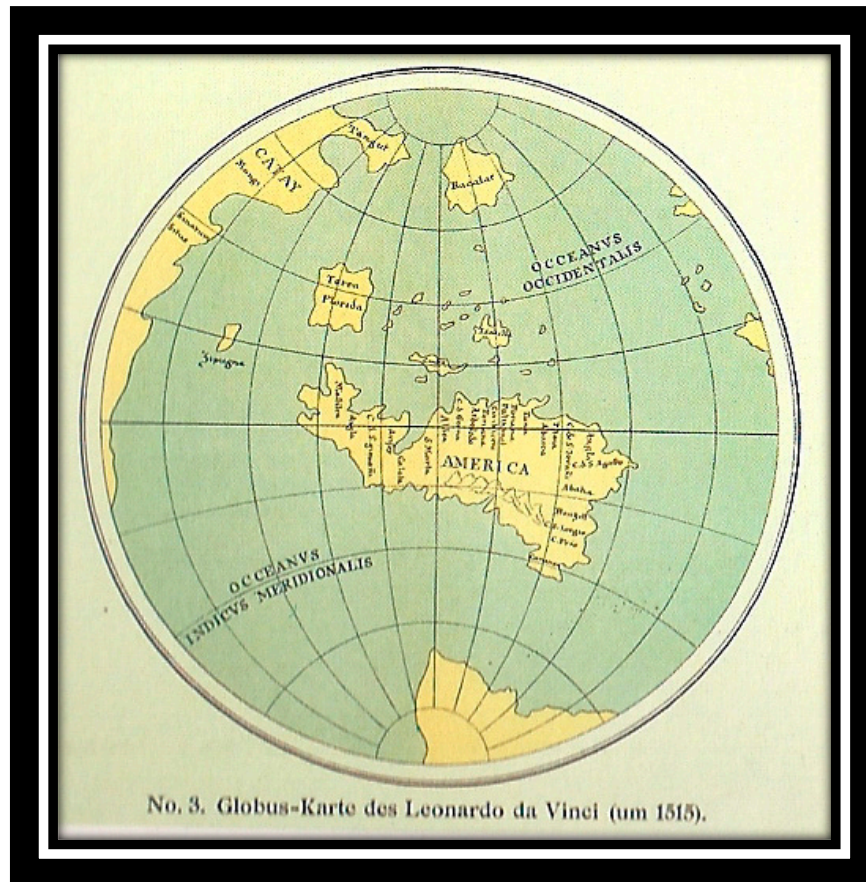
#### Leonardo da Vinci Globe Gores, 1514



The outlines of the New World in the da Vinci globe gores bear a resemblance to those found in the *Lenox* and the *Jagellonicus* globes (#314). The North American region is represented by two islands, one of which bears the name *Bacalar*, the other *Terra Florida*. South America, a large island, has conspicuously inscribed the name *America*, together with a few prominent coast names. The question, as to whether England or Spain may claim the priority in the discovery of Florida, has given rise to many contradictory statements. For the English, the honor has been claimed for Sebastian Cabot; and by the Spaniards, for Ponce de Leon. But, whatever may have been the southernmost point reached by Cabot in coasting America on his return, it is certain, that he did not land in Florida, and that the honor of first exploring that country is due to Juan Ponce de Leon. This cavalier, who was governor of Puerto Rico, induced by the vague traditions circulated by the natives of the West Indies, that there was a country in the north possessing a fountain whose water restored the aged to youth, made it an object of his ambition to discover this marvelous region. With this view, he resigned the governorship, and set sail with three caravels on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 1512. Steering NWN he came upon a country covered with flowers and verdure and, as the day of his discovery happened to be Palm Sunday, called by the Spaniards *Pascua Florida*, he gave it the name of *Florida*. He landed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April, and took possession of the country in the name of the King of Castile. (see monograph #327)

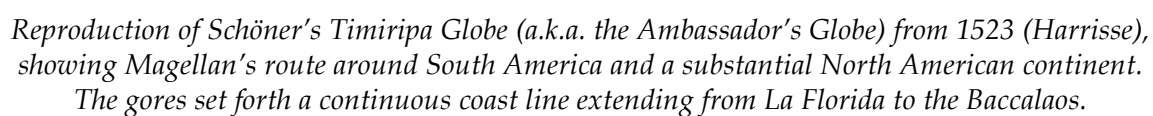
The Da Vinci map appears to be a preliminary sketch from which a global map was to have been made. A mere glance at the crude conventionalized box-effect labeled *Terra Florida*, shown as an island, discloses that Da Vinci had no detailed knowledge of

Ponce de Leon's voyage of 1513, such as we find on a map drawn at that time by Freducci. Da Vinci represents Florida, however, as a considerable landmass between Cuba and Zipangu [Japan], with Asia beyond.

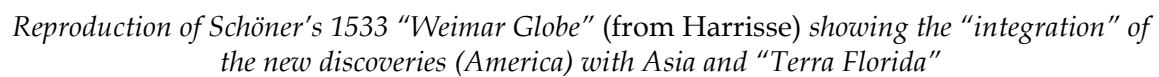


### Schöner's Globes

True it is that the Spanish Government had been informed and believed, ever since the first expedition of John Cabot, that there was west of Cuba, a continent that stretched from a high point at the north to a very low point at the south. But it laid no claim to that country, which was then considered to be barren, and chiefly within the Portuguese line of demarcation. It is therefore only in *Lusitanian* charts and their Germanic derivatives, that in the first quarter of the 16<sup>th</sup> century we see the continental coast depicted, excepting always the *La Cosa* planisphere of 1500 (#305), which does not seem to have found imitators in Spain; and which, besides, depicts the northeast coast in a form entirely different from that of the *Ambassadors* globe gores and of the Weimar charts. And if the reader wishes to form an idea of the appearance of Spanish maps made between the voyage of Magellan and the exploration of the northeast coast by Gomez, he has only to examine the elaborate 1523 *Turin* map (#333.1) by Giovanni Vespucci, which ignores all lands north of Florida. (see monograph #328)









*The Johannes Schöner terrestrial manuscript globe, 1520: Zipango [Japan] and North America, showing the perceived proximity of Florida to Japan*

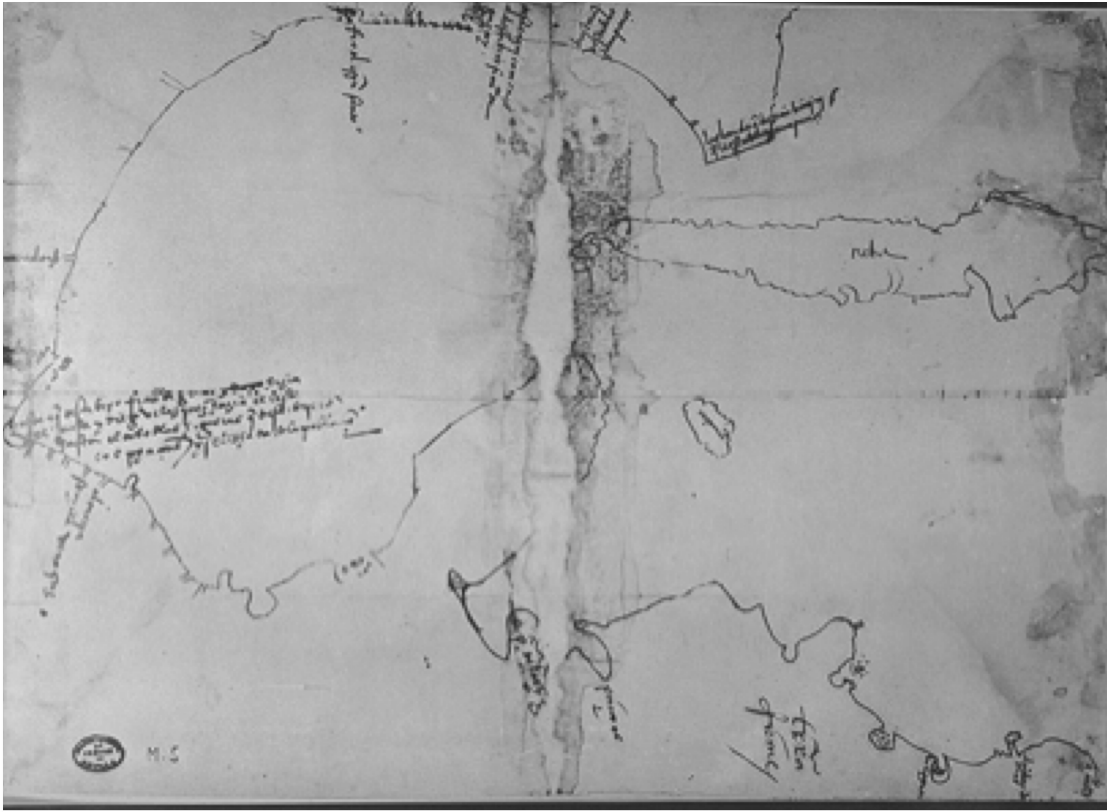
### **The Pineda Chart, 1519**

The earliest known map to correctly show the main outlines of the Gulf of Mexico is this manuscript sheet (43 x 22 cm) attached to a royal authorization of 1521 granting Francesco de Garay, Governor of Jamaica, the right to colonize the country between 'Florida, formerly Bimjni' and Mexico. While it bears neither title nor name of maker, it is presumably the drawing sent to the King of Spain by Garay and constructed by Alonso Pineda and his pilots, who explored the northern coast of the Gulf for Garay. Pineda's expedition demonstrated that there was no passage to the Pacific from the Gulf of Mexico (although the mysterious *Darien Strait* appeared on many maps of the period from Waldseemüller's map of 1507 on, (see #310, 313, 319, 326, 328, 332); from Mexico southward the coast was already known.

The map is bordered on the north by Florida, on which is inscribed: *La Florida que decian Bimini que descubrio Joan Ponce* [Florida, said to be *Bimini*, which was discovered by Juan Ponce (de Leon)]. Thence the coast curves westward to a point where we read: *Hasta aqui descubrio Joan Ponce* [As far as this, extends the discovery of Juan Ponce - approximately present-day Apalachee Bay]; then to another bearing the inscription: *Desede aqui comenco de descubrir Francesco de Garay* [From here, Francesco de Garay commenced discovery - approximately present-day Appalachicola], and to the mouth of a wide river named *Rio del Spiritu Santo*, evidently one of the mouths of the Mississippi. From the latter the coastline assumes the shape of a semi-circle, extending to a large projecting peninsula that can only be the Yucatan peninsula, although nameless and absolutely connected with the mainland (a rather novel representation on a Spanish chart of 1519 since many cartographers preferred to misrepresent the Yucatan as an

island). The coast then continues westward as far as *El Darian* (present-day Panama). There is also a legend that must be noted, as it marks the limits of the discoveries accomplished in those regions, (in translation):

*As far as this, westward, Francesco de Garay did discover, eastward, as far as the Cape de las higueras [of figs], which was discovered by the Pinzons and the priviledge to settle the country was granted to them.*

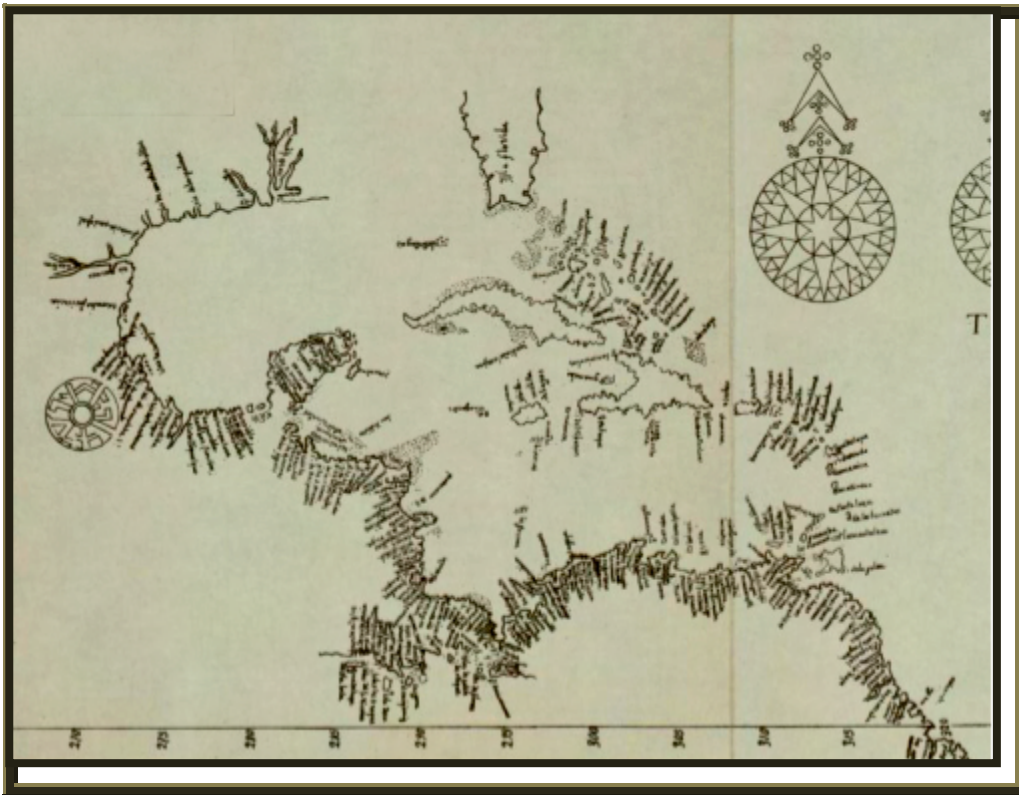




**Geocarta Nautica Universale, 1523, Giovanni [Juan] Vespucci**

The New World in this map shows a very accurate relationship and image of all of the aspects of the Caribbean Sea and especially the West Indies, Hispaniola, Cuba, Jamaica, South America, Central America, Yucatan (as a peninsula), the Gulf of Mexico and there

is also a blank space. East of this blank space, in its proper relation to Cuba, is a fairly accurately shaped uncolored peninsula labeled *Isla Florida* [Island of Florida] with only the lower portion drawn and nothing above it. If the date is correct (which it probably is not) this would be the first map to show the Florida peninsula properly labeled, shaped or positioned -- except for the *Freducci* map (*see description above*) which is a manuscript *portolan* [nautical] chart. Tierra del Fuego and the Strait of Magellan are shown but not labeled so it was probably done after Juan Sebastian Del Cano's return from the Magellan voyage around the world. The sources of the map information seem to be a mixture of Spanish and Portuguese and maybe other authentic sources. (*see monograph #333.1*)

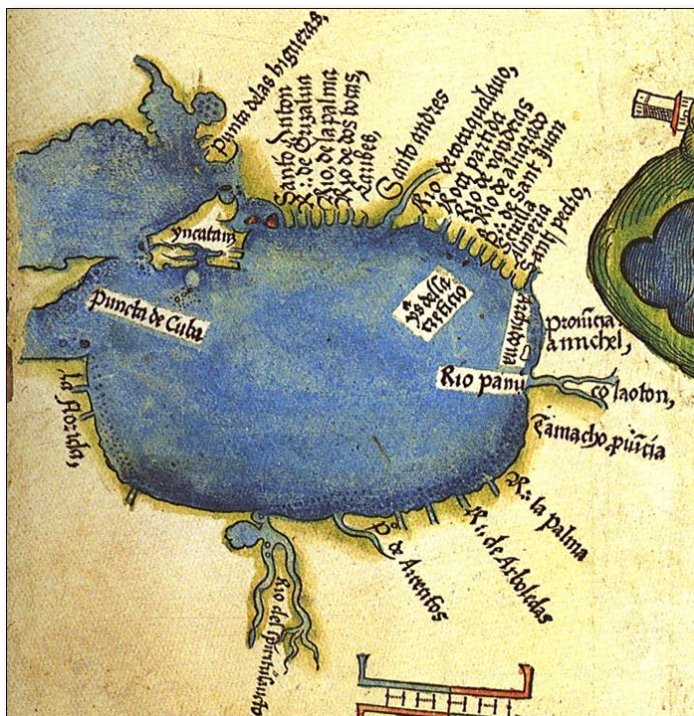
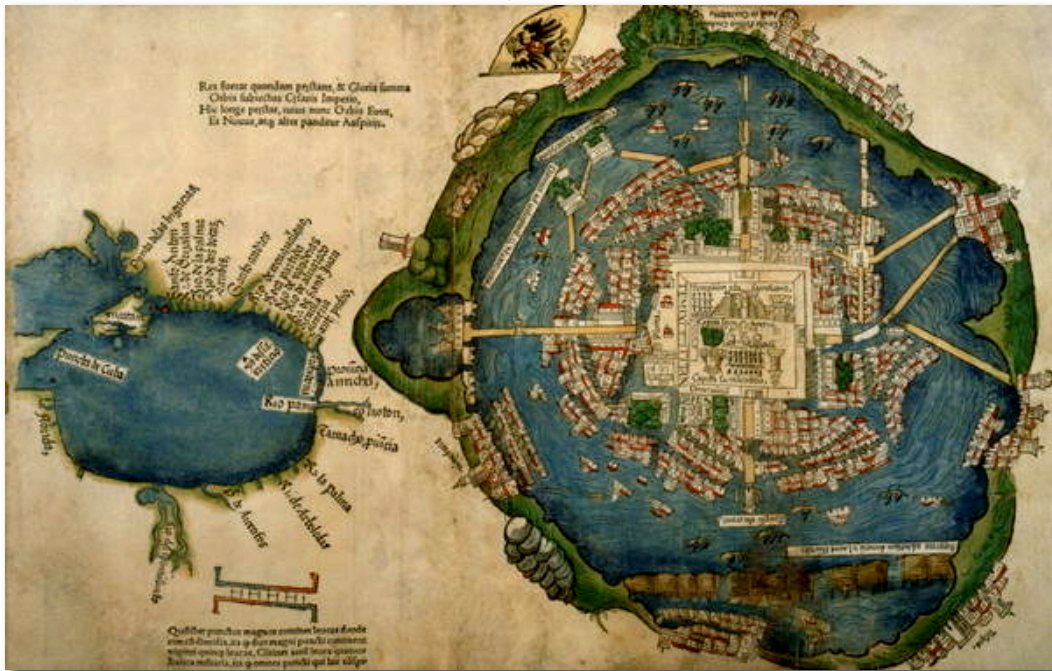


**Mexico City and the Gulf of Mexico, from Freidrich Peypus' *Praeclara de Nova maris Oceani Hyspania Narratio*, 1524, Ferdinand Cortes**

Oriented with West at the top and measuring 20 x 15 cm, this map of the Gulf of Mexico, found on the same page with a larger map of Mexico City, was published in Nüremberg by Peypus in 1524 with a Latin edition of the second letter of Hernán Cortés de Monroy y Pizarro, the Spanish conqueror and colonizer of Mexico. This second letter entitled *Praeclara Fernandi. Cortesii de noua Maris Oceani Hispania Narratio* (originally written by Cortes in 1520) stated that he was given a drawing of the gulf coast by Montezuma himself. The northern shoreline (right side) with its Spanish names may have come from reports/charts supplied by members of Pineda's expedition of 1519 whom Cortes 'captured' at Panuco. On this map at Panuco is the name *Provincia Amichel* (top center), the name given by Garay to his proposed colony for which Pineda made his voyage. Following the shoreline northward, one can see at least hints of possible knowledge of both the Rio Grande and Mississippi or Mobile Rivers [*Rio Panuco* and *Rio del Spiritu*



*Santo*]; additionally, the map shows *La Florida*, the first time the name was used on a printed map. Across the Gulf, to the south, Cortes' conception of the Yucatan peninsula as an island on this map may have influenced many later cartographers who also displayed this misconception. (see monograph #334)



Detail: Gulf of Mexico with the Yucatan peninsula shown as an island, La Florida is on the lower left. (oriented with South at the top)



Vespucci world map, 1526, Juan [Giovanni] Vespucci

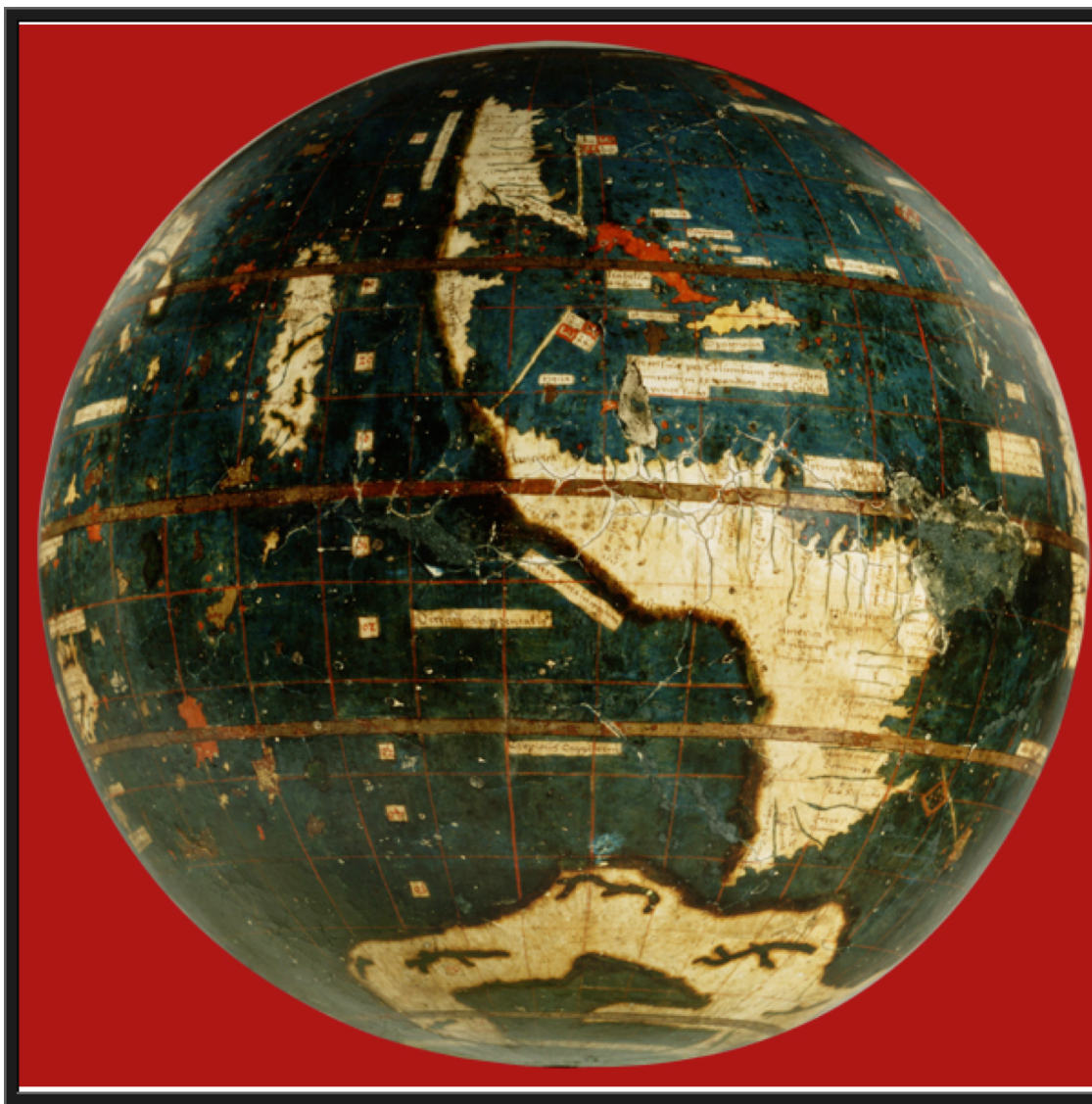


As can be seen here, Africa, southern Europe, and Asia Minor are well known, also the coasts of Florida, Mexico, Central America and northern South America. The Spanish reported little progress in the exploration of North America during the following two decades. Juan Ponce de Leon had been in Florida in 1513 searching for the legendary *Fountain of Youth*, gold, silver and slaves and had made an important contribution by describing the Gulf Stream. Freelance slave-raiding trips in the Bahamas and perhaps on the Florida coast were the main activities until 1520. In that year Lucas Vasquez Ayllón, prominent Santo Domingo leader, organized an expedition to explore lands thought to exist north of Florida. This map names the newly discovered country *Ayllon*. He sent out a ship under Francisco Gordillo that was joined by another under Pedro de Quexos. In June 1521 they landed at the mouth of a large river, which they named after St. John the Baptist. The two captains claimed the surrounding land for Spain and, against Ayllón's orders, took 150 natives back to Santo Domingo to be sold as slaves. Quexos's ship returned safely, but Gordillo's was lost at sea. Diego Columbus headed a royal investigation that ordered the surviving Indians returned to their homeland and released. (see monograph #338)



*Detail of the 1527 world map by Vesconte de Maiollo [Maggiolo]: North America with the mythical Sea of Verrazano and Terra Florida (#340)*





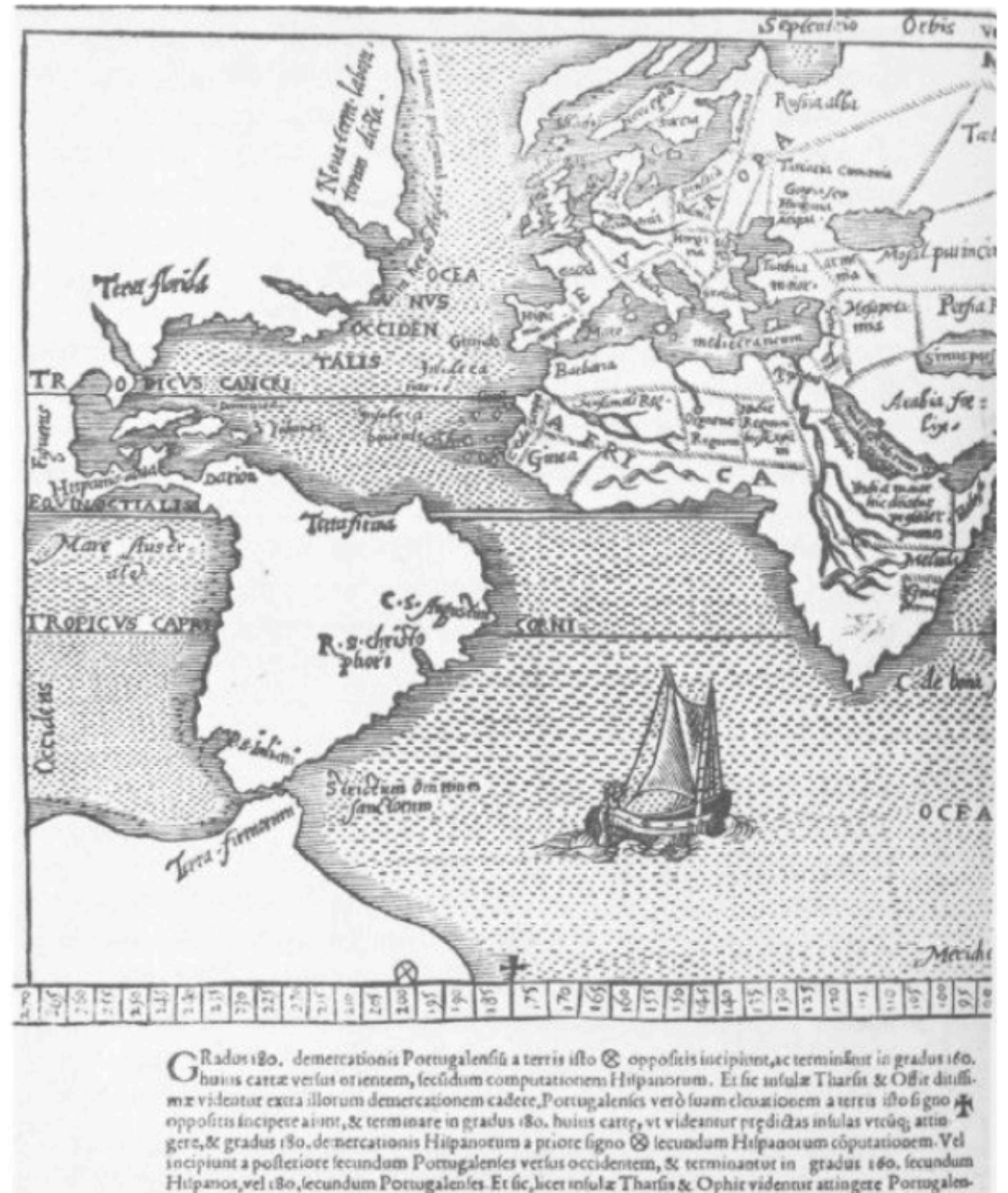
*The Paris Green Globe 1515-1528, showing North and South America, with the name "America" appearing four times (twice on each continent); note the multiple "passages" to Cipangu [Japan], Florida is shown with a strong southeastern slant with a Spanish flag at its tip (#342.1)*





*Terra Florida on the Nova et integra universi orbis descriptio [Paris Gilt or De Bure Globe], 1527  
The unknown globe maker joins the New World discoveries with Cathay (China) and displays  
Magellan's historic circumnavigation (#334)*

On the Robert Thorne map of 1527, shown below, the Tropic of Cancer is shown cutting through the peninsula of Florida at the south side of Lake Okeechohee, too far north. The inclusion of this great lake on the *Freducci* map reflects the descriptions and geographic knowledge of his Indian guides, but the inclusion by Thorne indicates a general knowledge of it by that time among the cartographers in Spain.



*The Western Hemisphere portion of Robert Thorne's 1527 world map*

There are two different maps of Florida, dated 1529, by Diego Ribero (#346). One is in the Grand Ducal Library at Weimar and the other is in the Vatican Library at Rome. A copy of this Vatican edition is known as the *Second Borgian Map* and is at the Museum of the Propaganda, Rome. They are very creditable in their portrayal of the Florida outline.

On the Weimar copy we find *Rio Salada*, taken from the *Freducci* map. It is also found on the Wolfenbüttel map of about that time, in its correct position on the Florida east coast.



The name *Rio de Canoas* also appears on some of these maps, but it is shown on the west coast, with *R. de la Paz*, which was named for Juan Paz. On the Vatican copy is the name *Rio de Stapana*. This name, like Freducci's *Stababa*, refers to the chief of the Caloosa Indians in 1513, named by López de Velasco *Escampaba*. This Indian name then indicated Estero Bay, also named on these maps as the Bay of Ponce de León. *Ancon Baxo* was Anclote Harbor and *B. Honda* was Charlotte Harbor.



*A portion of the 1529 Weimar edition of the Ribero world map showing a well-defined Florida (#346)*



*The Ulpius globe, 1542, corrects many errors of preceding geographers, though not free from errors itself. For the first time the peninsula of Florida receives a proper location and the eastern shore of North America generally is rather well outlined (#367).*





*A portion of the Chart of the Gulf of Mexico by Jean Rotz, 1540, #368*

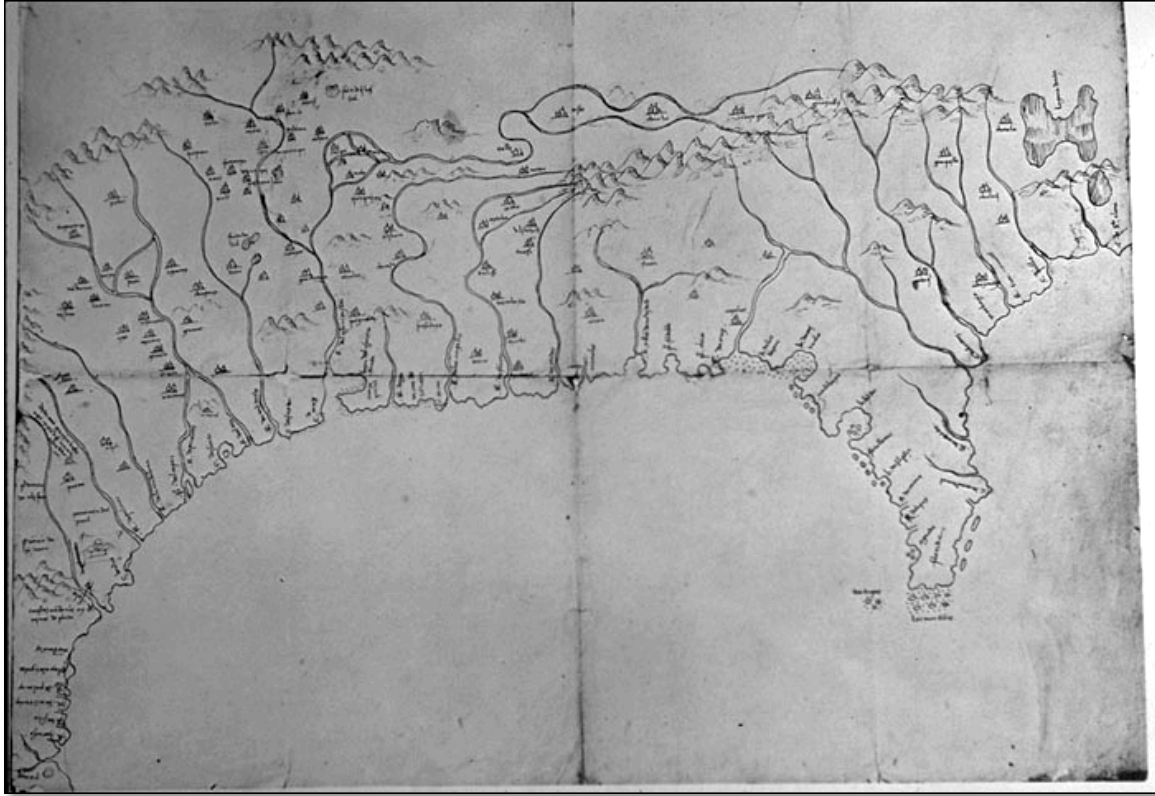


*Dauphin map detail showing the Caribbean area, 1550, #378*





A 1555 map of Florida from the *Cosmographie Universelle* by Guillaume Le Testu, #378

DeSoto Map, *Mapas de Mexico y Florida*, 1544

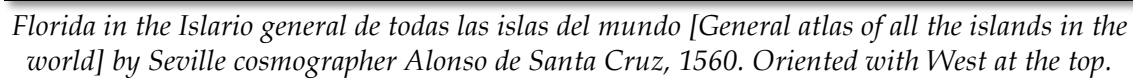
A map of Alonso de Santa Cruz has often been called the "De Soto Map", for it portrays many of his stopping places. The first or most southern bay on the west coast is named on this map as the *Bay of Juan Ponce*, and the next is *B. honda*, which is wishfully called present Tampa Bay, instead of Charlotte Harbor. On his 1542 map at Stockholm, Santa Cruz has the same *b. honda* for his second bay, *ancon baxo* for the third and *B. de Miruelo*, or *Apalache*, for his fourth. This is actually an anonymous, undated, manuscript map and was made to exhibit the explorations of De Soto and Moscoso, 1539-1543. Twenty-one rivers are represented as emptying into the Gulf or the Atlantic. Among these is the *R del espiritu Santo*, which is either the Mississippi or the Mobile River. The large lake in the northeast may be the Okefenokee Swamp, in southern Georgia. Indian villages within the present United States are mapped for the first time. In the Texas region the inscription *en estas*, etc., may be translated "In these mountains there are silver mines"; and the longer inscription to the northward thereof, "From Quivira to this point there are numerous herds of cattle" — probably the first mention on a map of buffalo. Place names include *Los martires florida* and *C. de canaveral*. This pen-and-ink sketch is the only contemporary map to illustrate the de Soto expedition of 1539-43. It shows the southern part of North America and includes the coast from St Elena (Port Royal, South Carolina) to the Panuco River in Mexico, where the survivors arrived under Moscoso, after the death of their leader and after their epic wanderings of four years. Many of the 127 legends, rivers, and names of Indian towns on the map are to be found in narratives of the expedition by Ranjel. Biedma, and the Gentleman of Elvas. The map was found among the papers of the royal cartographer, Alonso de Santa Cruz, and was probably made by him from written and oral reports of members of the expedition. This map



marks an epoch in the history of the cartography of the United States, for it is the first graphic representation of any part of the interior of that country. It is housed in the "General Archive of the Indies" in Seville, Spain.



*A portion of the Harleian map of 1544 showing Florida again in close proximity to the mythical "Sea of Verrazano" similar to Vesconte de Maiollo [Maggiolo] map of 1527. The strait on this map carries the legend, Gofanto mer osto, which may be freely translated as "Gulf before [or leading to] the South Sea". #382.1*



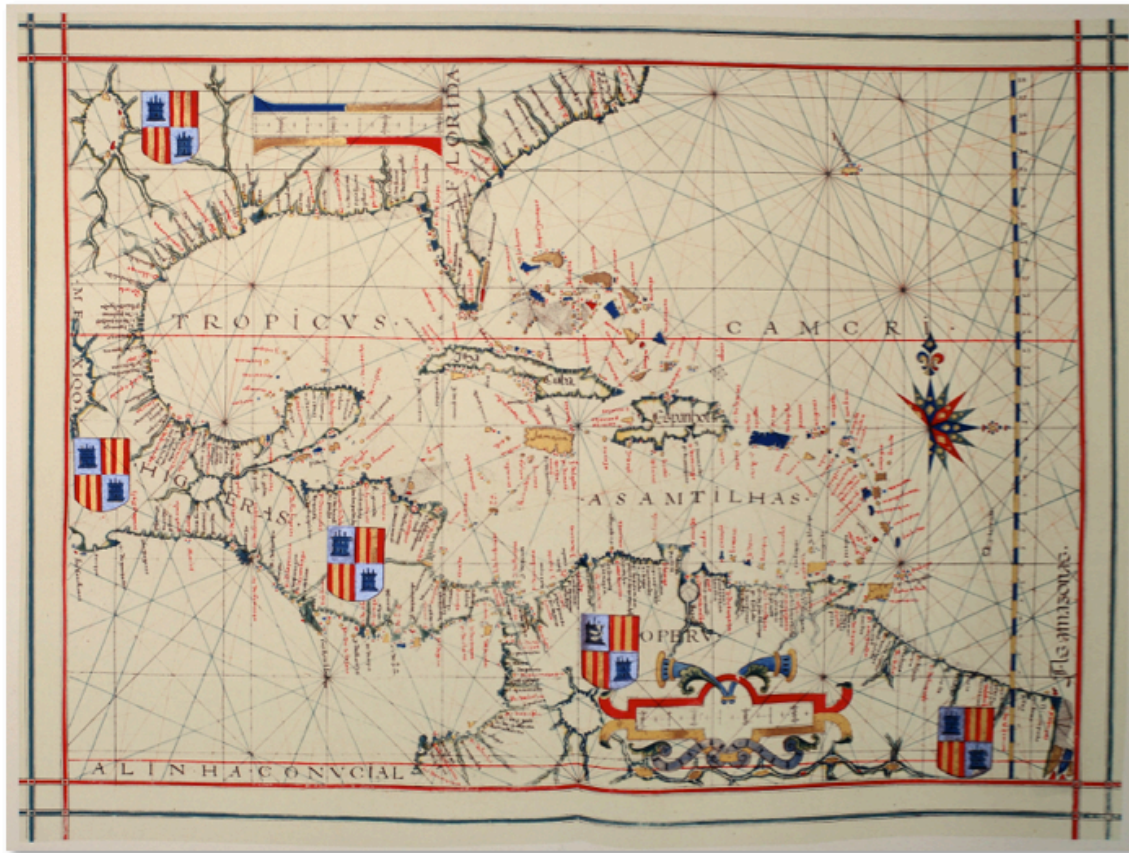




This detail of La Florida is from the 1562 collaborative map by Diego Gutierrez, a Spanish cartographer from Casa de la Contratacion in Seville, and Hieronymous Cock, a noted engraver from Antwerp. The original map covers both North and South America, showing coastlines, rivers, cities, and mountains, and was printed on six sheets. Relief is shown pictorially on the map. (see monograph #400)



*Universal Atlas, 1568-1571, Fernão Vaz Dourado*



Map 11 in the Atlas: West Indies, Central and South America, up to the Amazon River. West of the Treaty of Tordesillas meridian extend exclusively Spanish territories in the central strip of the New World. Using the equator as a base, the image encompasses all of the southern areas of North America, with a special emphasis on Florida, the Gulf of Mexico and the large region known today as Central America, "New Spain", the Antilles and the ocean (*Mare oceanum*), along with the northern areas of South America, where the name *Peru* is placed close to Panama. The image repeats areas that were well known to and controlled by Spanish cartographers from the late 15<sup>th</sup> century onwards. (#409.1)



Joan Martines, *Portolan Atlas*, 1578: #7. West Indies, east coast of North America and north coast of South America, Central America, Mexico. Note that the shape of Florida is considerably less accurate than many maps that have proceeded it. #416





*NVEVA HIOSPANIA TABVLA NOVA, 1561, Tolomeo [Giacomo Gastaldi]*

On this 1561 map by Gastaldi, Mexico's coastal geography and rivers are given in very basic terms, and only a few of its best known cities, such as Mexico City, are identified. The Florida peninsula lies well to the east, attached to the mainland by a narrow isthmus. The fact that Florida is included on the map is appropriate, for already the annual voyages from Vera Cruz to Havana and on to Spain were a regular feature of Spanish commerce. These voyages brought the homebound Spanish fleets into Florida waters in three broad areas: along the west coast, close to the Keys, and northward along the east coast.

The languages on the map are Spanish and Latin, and its title is translated "A New Map of New Spain." The Tropic of Cancer is shown correctly as passing between Florida and Cuba, and the Pacific Ocean is depicted as the *MAR DEL SVR*, [South Sea]. The latitudes given are reasonably accurate, and longitudes are depicted as progressing eastward, presumably from the Canary Islands.

On the Pacific side of Mexico, Baja California correctly is shown as a peninsula. There is considerable detail for the Gulf of California, the Colorado River, and several coastal features of the lower Mexican west coast and present-day Central America.



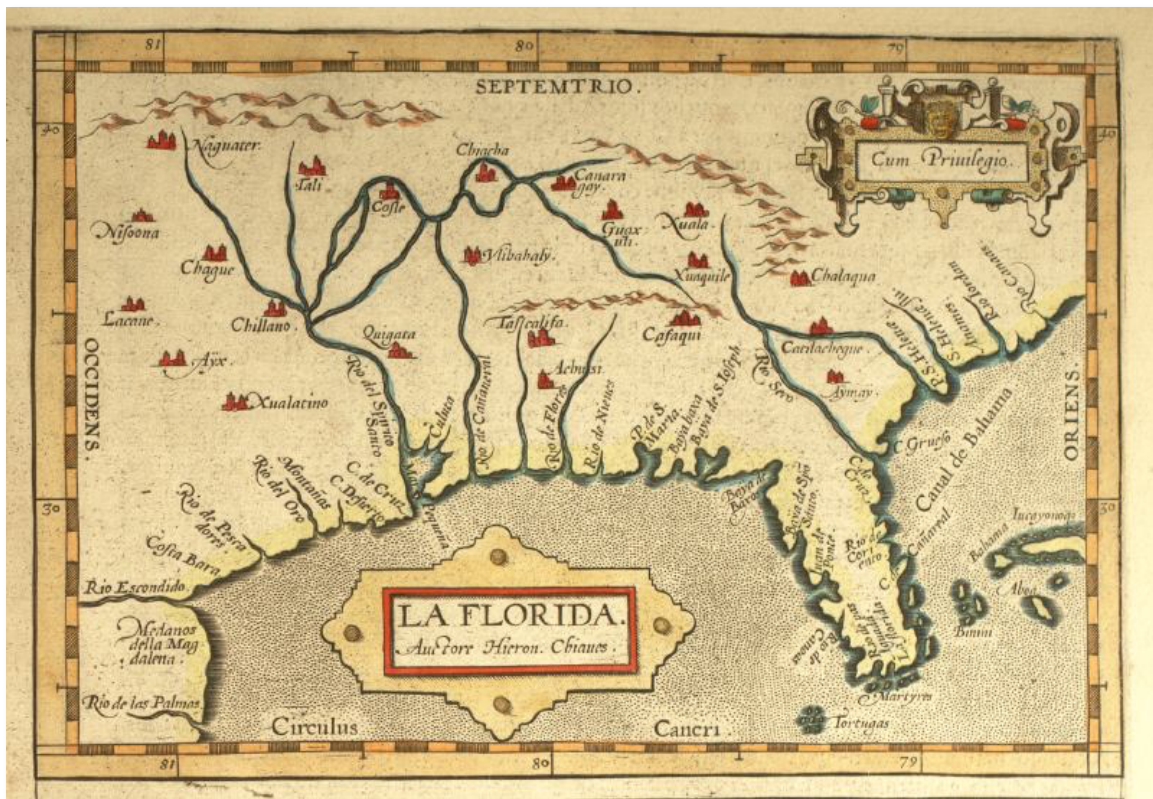
Skálholt Map, Sigurd Stefansson/Thord Thorláksson, 1590



This map the Norse settlements of Greenland [Grønlandia], Helleland, Resaland, Iceland [Island], the Western Settlement along with a strange amorphous landmass labeled "America Pars" and "Terra Florida" just west of England.



The *Skálholt Map*, shown here, was made in 1590 by Sigurd Stefánsson, a teacher in Skálholt, then an important religious and educational center on Iceland. Skálholt was, through eight centuries, one of the most important places in Iceland. From 1056 until 1785, it was one of Iceland's two Episcopal Sees, along with Hólar, making it a cultural and political center. Iceland's first official school, Skálholtsskóli (now Reykjavík Gymnasium, MR), was founded at Skálholt in 1056 to educate clergy. Stefánsson attempted to plot the American locations mentioned in the *Vinland Saga* on a map of the North Atlantic. Stefánsson's original is lost; this copy dates from 1669, and was included in the description of Iceland by Biörn Jonsen of Skarsaa. (see monograph #431.6)



*La Florida, Abraham Ortelius-Geronimo de Chiaves, Antwerp, 1584 one of the early maps devoted entirely to Florida. The red-colored settlements reflect the Indian settlements first reported by members of the De Soto expedition.*

Abraham Ortelius, Geographer by special appointment of Philip II of Spain in 1575, was one of the greatest cartographers of his age. He provided the world with its first modern, standardized, printed world atlas, published in 1570. This work, entitled *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*, ushered in an age of increased geographic precision in printed and bound maps for which there was much demand.

In the years following 1570, Ortelius kept his readers abreast of geographic discoveries by providing them with periodic updates. The two maps here were included in the third such supplement, or *Additamentum*, as it was called, to the original *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*. This *Additamentum* was published in 1584, and *LA FLORIDA* marks the first known printing of a map of a North American region.'

According to the cartouche, the ornate box of information at the bottom of the map labeled *LA FLORIDA*, the cartographer of the map is "Hieron. Chiaves," a Latin abbreviation of the Spanish name Geronimo Chaves, who served in the important position of *Pilato Mayor*, [Pilot-Major], beginning in 1552. The second cartouche, in the upper right, bears the inscription, *Cum Priuilegio*, [With Permission (to publish)].

There is no compass rose to indicate directions, but these are provided in Latin near the map borders themselves. North is listed as *SEPTEMTRIO* on the *LA FLORIDA* map, and as *Septentrio* on the *GVASTECAN* map. Elsewhere, *Oriens* is east, *Occidens* is west, and *Meridies* is south. The line marked *Circulus Cancri* at the bottom of the *LA FLORIDA* map is the Tropic of Cancer.

The Spanish claim on *La Florida* extended considerably beyond the scope of this map, but the major attention here is focused on that portion that was penetrated by Hernando de Soto and his entourage as they fought their way through this region between 1539 and 1543. The map itself is based largely on a c.1544 map ascribed to Alonso de Santa Cruz, and it delineates much of the same topographical information derived from the de Soto march in Florida. Yet there are several important differences between the two maps.

The rectangular shape of the Florida peninsula bears several names in Spanish that are, in Spanish or English, still in use today: *C. de Canaveral* [Cape Canaveral], *Tortugas* [the Dry Tortugas], *Rio de pas* [Peace River] and *Baya de S. Ioseph* [St. Joseph Bay].

There is confusion regarding the topography north of present-day Florida, especially with respect to rivers, many of which are shown to intersect, and mountains, which are incorrectly oriented. Longitudes given are unconventional, and may be due to copying errors. There is no mention of St. Augustine, San Mateo, Santa Elena or any of the Spanish missions or coastal forts, perhaps for reasons of security.

According to research undertaken by Cecile-Marie Sastre of Florida State University, the feature labeled *Baya de Baxos* at present-day Apalachee Bay is best translated "Bay of Sandbars," and the place in southern Florida marked *Aguada* may have derived its name as a "Watering Place" for ships.

The map labeled *GVASTECAN* is a continuation of the Florida map, and begins at the *Rio de las Palmas* [Palm River] on the Mexican Gulf coast, where the Florida map ends. It follows Mexico southward past Tampico to the *Insula Luporum*, or, as it is known today, the *Isla de Lobos* [Island of Wolves]. Additionally, many interior features are located.

There is a Latin inscription just above and to the reader's left of the circular cartouche indicating that the prime meridian for this map was Toledo, Spain. When compared to longitudes based on today's Prime Meridian at Greenwich, this map bears strikingly accurate longitudes. This precision extends also to the latitudes, which are very good for both maps.





This is a detail from the map drawn of Florida in 1584 by Chiaves and included in Ortelius' *Atlas*. The area shown extends across the present-day Florida panhandle and peninsula, with relief shown pictorially. The map shows coastlines, rivers, and settlements. Tampa Bay is shown here as *Briya de Spō Santo*.

*Floridæ Americae Provincia Recens & Exactissima, Jacques Le Moyne, 1591*

Le Moyne's map includes the peninsula of Florida and the surrounding regions from the northern part of Cuba to *Prom Terra falg* or Cape Lookout. The map was included in De Bry's *Brevis Narratio Eorum Quae in Florida Americae Provincia*. Jacques le Moyne was an artist who accompanied Laudonniere to Florida in 1564. Le Moyne prepared this map, along with drawings and a narrative account. De Bry first attempted to obtain the information from Le Moyne in London in 1587, but Le Moyne, who was then working for Sir Walter Raleigh, refused to part with them. After Le Moyne's death in 1588, De Bry acquired his work from Le Moyne's widow and published them in 1591. W.P. Cumming surmised that the manuscript map was the source of not only this map, but was also used by John White in making the southern part of his *La Virginia Pars*.

The map was a landmark for the region, containing significant new information (often inaccurate) that became a primary source for other maps for the next 150 years. It was Le Moyne's misfortune to have many of his errors incorporated and even exaggerated in Mercator's map of 1606, upon which for half a century much of the subsequent cartography of the region was based. Le Moyne's coastline is usually correct for latitude, but the shore extends too far east rather than northeast in direction.

The sea shown at the top is could represent *Verrazano's Sea*. Le Moyne added several lakes that endured in mythological proportions in the later cartography of the Southeast. In the peninsula of Florida has a lake with an island called *Sarrop*, which



probably represents Lake Okeechobee. North of *Sarrop* is a larger lake which may represent Lake George and, over time, became the great inland lake of the Southeast. Le Moyne locates it slightly southeast of the mouth of the *May River* [St. Johns River] into which it flows. He calls it *Lacus aquae dulcis* [fresh water lake] and says that it is so large that from one bank it is impossible to see the other side. To the north of the lake, among the *montes Apalatci* [Appalachian Mountains] is another large lake, fed by an enormous waterfall. This waterfall may have been inspired by tales of waterfalls in western North Carolina; but it is more likely to depict the legends heard from Indians of the great falls of Niagara. Below this lake is written *In hoc lacu Indigenae argenti grana inveniunt* [In this lake the natives find grains of silver]. #431



Place names include Cape Canaveral, the May River [St Johns]

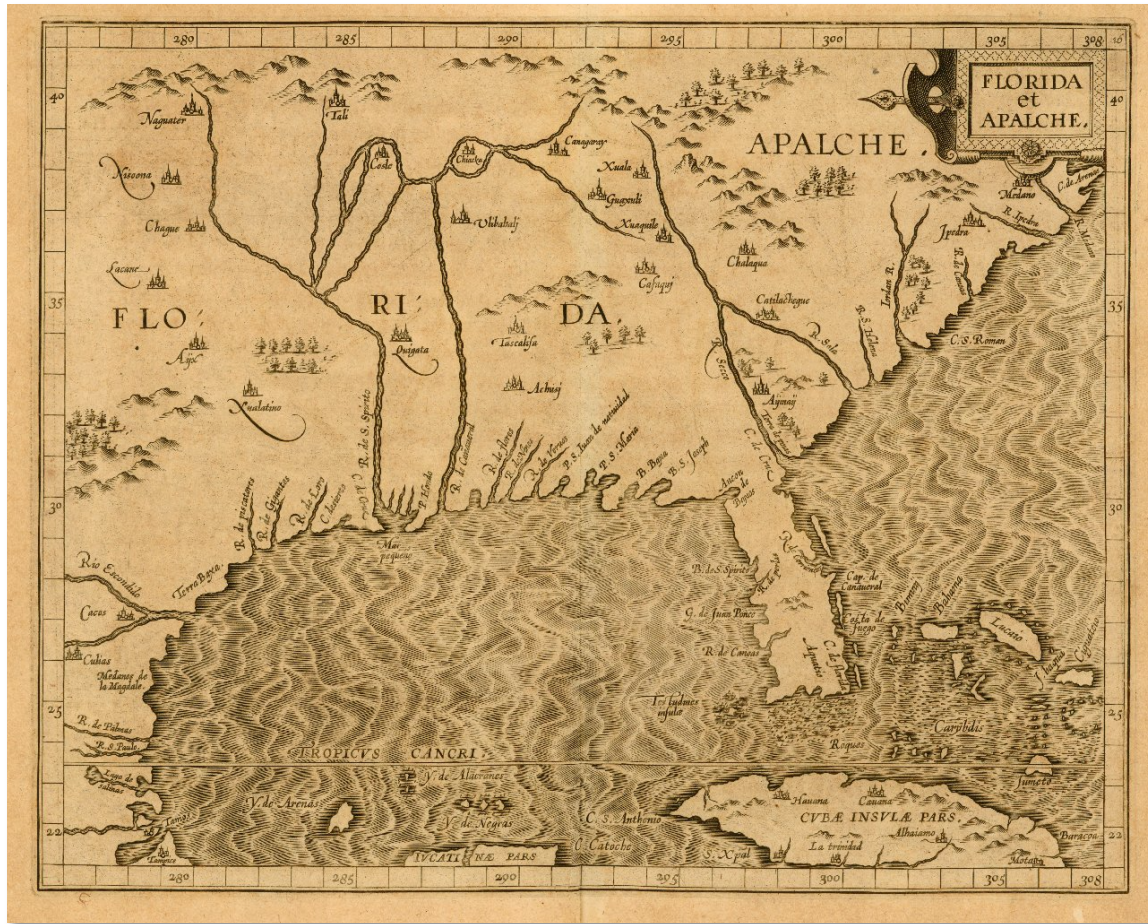
This is one of the most attractive maps of North America. It was produced by Theodor de Bry in 1591 to illustrate the account of the ill-fated French Huguenot colony in Florida

led by Jean Ribaut and Rene de Laudonniere between 1562 and 1565. Jacques Le Moyne de Morgues travelled as official artist on that expedition. The manuscript draft of this map, together with the drawings of the Florida Indians made on the spot, were acquired by de Bry after the death of Le Moyne in 1588, de Bry having previously attempted to obtain them in 1587 when Le Moyne and he met in London. Le Moyne was then in the service of Sir Walter Raleigh and had refused to part with the manuscripts.

De Bry engraved this map for publication in Part II of his *Great Voyages* series, entitled *Brevis Narratio eorum quae in Florida Americae Prouincia Callis acculerunt* in 1591. Although the map is somewhat less than accurate, it does show Port Royal (*Portus Regalis*) for the first time on a printed map, together with the French Fort Caroline (*CaTolina*) on the St John River, a probable indication of Lake Okeechobee in the south of the peninsula (*Laws & Insula SarTope*) and Lake George farther north (*Laws aquae dulcisi*, from which flows the river *Maij* (St John River)). Many of the place names shown on this map were derived from Indian sources; many are no longer extant, having been superseded by names given in the seventeenth century by English colonists. De Bry's version of Le Moyne's map was later adapted, errors and all, by Hondius in 1606 in his edition of Mercator's Atlas. An interesting historical echo of earlier explorations may be seen at the top of the map. It is tempting to think that the sea shown there may represent *Verrazzano's Sea*. It is also possible that it may represent the Great Lakes, for there are references on the map nearby to an enormous waterfall which may be an allusion to Niagara, heard about from Indian legends.





Corneille Wytfliet's *Florida et Apalche*, 1597

MAP of FLORIDA et APALCHE by Cornelius Wytfliet, 1598, Louvain (9x11 inches)

A map of Florida and the southeast coast of North America, taken from Cornelius Wytfliet's *Descriptiones Ptolemaicae Augmentum, siue Occidentis Notitia Breui Commentario*. (Louvain, Tijpiss Iohannis Bogardi, 1597); containing 19 maps of North America; the first atlas of America. The map shows the area extending from Cuba to North Carolina (21°-41° N; 287°-308° W).

Wytfliet's map is one of the earliest to focus on the southeast and to name "Florida". It is the second earliest regional map (after the smaller map by Ortelius) to focus on the region. The map is drawn from Geronimo de Chaves' map, which was copied by Ortelius in 1584; but adds considerable scope and detail over the earlier map. It is larger than its predecessor, and includes eastern Mexico, northern Yucatan, northern Cuba, and most of the Bahama Islands. Wytfliet also expands the coverage to include more of the Gulf Coast, as well as extending the map north to the Outer Banks of North Carolina and south to Cuba. The inland details are derived from the reports of Hernando de Soto, during his explorations of 1539-42, making it one of the few 16<sup>th</sup> century maps of North America to include significant inland detail from first hand European Accounts. The Florida peninsula is altered in shape from Ortelius, in that it is more rectangular and has a pronounced 'neck.' The source of this delineation appears to be unknown. The *Rio del Spirito Santo* shown here is the Mississippi River. The country



north and east of the great River Seco, which flows in a southeasterly direction from the upper limit of the Florida peninsula, is called *Apalche*. The Seco and Sola Rivers join each other to form a great island as on the Ortelius-Chaves map of 1584. The Florida peninsula itself, which is not given a name, has a rectangular shape, with a bottle-neck top, unlike the more V-shaped outline in many of the earlier maps. (#401)



*Detail: place names include B. de S. Spirito [Tampa Bay], Cap. De Canaveral*

It is also a valuable record of the names of long extinct Indian tribes encountered by De Soto in his remarkable journey throughout the southern United States in 1539 to 1542. Wytfliet's map, which appeared the first atlas specifically devoted to the Americas, shows fictional mountain ranges running parallel to the Gulf Coast. This contributed to



the inaccurate mapping of the Mississippi River so common on early maps, because it was believed that a river could not flow in a north-south direction through such terrain. In several other substantial ways, the 1597 Wytfliet map improves on its 1584 ancestor: the latitude and longitude scales in the borders are divided into even degrees, not given in odd fractions; the longitudes follow a conventional progression; greater detail characterizes the coastline; and there is a greater north-south trend to the Appalachian Mountains west of the area he has labeled *Apalche* - all of this in contrast to the Ortelius-Chaves map of 1584.

Regarding the interior, some of the inaccuracies of the earlier map are repeated here, such as the radiating river patterns. Also, Wytfliet follows Ortelius and Chaves in depicting the Florida peninsula as generally rectangular in shape, and as having a pronounced isthmus where it joins the mainland.

By 1597, the Spanish had a much better understanding of Florida's geography than this map indicates. Under Governor Pedro Menendez de Aviles, for instance, Spanish expeditions up the St. Johns River and along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, and those sent overland under Juan Pardo deep into the interior, had yielded much geographic knowledge of Florida. They had not found the Northwest Passage, and they could not locate the sought-after cross-peninsular waterway, but their search for these features did yield a greatly improved geographic understanding of much of the present-day Southeast. These same excursions also had revealed much about the extent and cultural diversity of the Native American peoples of this vast region.

The fact that there were so few published Spanish maps of the Americas in the 16<sup>th</sup> century is a reflection of Spain's policy of official secrecy with regard to its *padrón real*, later called the *padrón general*, or master world chart, and the close supervision of Spanish navigators by the *Pilato Mayor*, or Pilot-Major. The Spanish Crown was opposed to sharing updated geographic knowledge with nations it regarded as potential rivals. Piracy already was a scourge to Spanish commerce, and English and French freebooters were growing ever bolder by the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century.

Attacks on Spanish settlements in the Caribbean were perpetrated by French mutineers from Fort Caroline in 1564 and 1565. These incidents not only alerted Spanish authorities to the existence of a hostile French base in Florida, but also underscored the dangerous vulnerability to attack of isolated Spanish coastal settlements. Drake's later systematic plundering of the Caribbean and St. Augustine would see those dangers fully realized.

In the meantime, Menendez de Aviles had acted with dispatch to end the French presence in Florida. His violent capture of Fort Caroline and his slaughters of French Huguenots near present-day Matanzas Inlet had indeed removed the French threat adjacent to the Spanish shipping lanes, but these events had earned Menendez undying enmity abroad. Furthermore, they were but the first instances of continued European contention for control of the present-day Southeast. The very survival of Spanish Florida would be tested in the years ahead by a whole assortment of enemies, many of whom would commit atrocities of their own.

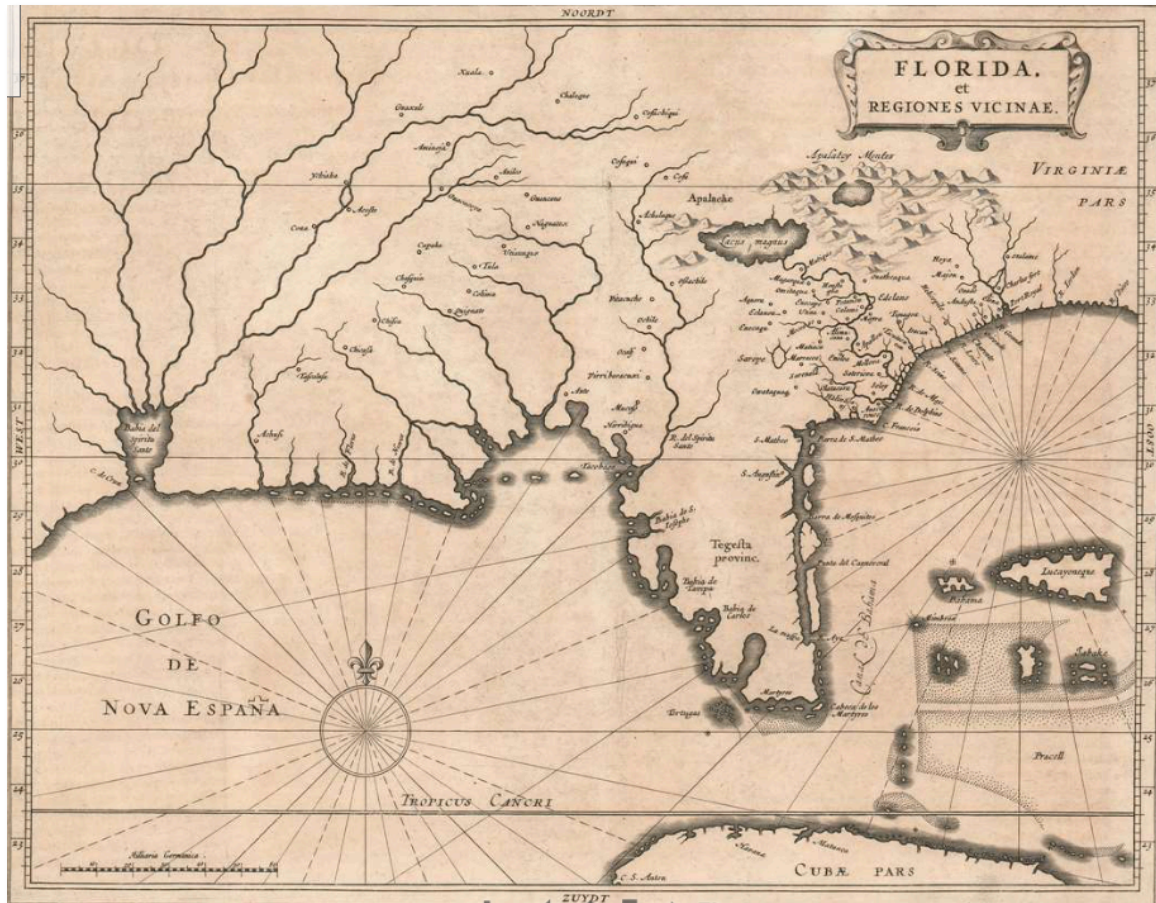
Throughout his explorations of *La Florida*, Menendez urged a policy of secrecy. Other nations, however, quite willingly portrayed the geography of Spanish America, Florida included. The 17<sup>th</sup> century saw the production of maps showing settlements along the *Spanish Main*, the port cities of *Nueva Espana*, and isolated outposts in Spanish Florida. In still later years, some of these maps would bear even the itineraries and







Father Matteo Ricci's 1602 world map *Kunyu Wanguo Quantu* 坤輿萬國全圖  
 Detail: The map identifies Florida as *Huādì* (花地), the "Land of Flowers." #441



*Florida et regions vicinae by De Laet, 1625*

Here the Florida peninsula is called *Tegesta Provinc.*, one of the earliest appearance of this name on a map. *Tegesta* for the Florida appears on numerous subsequent maps. One of the great foundational maps of the American southeast, this is Johannes de Laet's 1630 map of Florida. Florida, at the time, referred to a vast region extending from Virginia to the Mississippi Valley, and this map correspondingly covers that region. De Laet based the map on a variety of sources, particularly on the Cornelius Claesz's 1602 interpretation of Jacques Le Moyne's map of 1591, the Abraham Ortelius-Hieronymo de Chaves map of 1584, and the Mercator-Hondius map of 1606.

This is the first map to apply the name *Tegesta* (*Tegesta Provinc.*) to what is today Florida. The *Tegesta* (*Tekesta*, *Tegesta*, *Chequesta*, *Vizcaynos*) were an American Indian tribe living in the southeastern parts of Florida, including most of Miami-Dade County and the Florida Keys. Their main village was on Biscayne Bay, where they encountered Juan Ponce de León, Pedro Menéndez de Avilés, and the French settlers under Rene Goulaine de Laudonnière. They played a significant role in the early European settlement and exploration of Florida. The term *Tegesta*, as applied to Florida, was followed by most other cartographers in the subsequent decades until the prominence of the English settlements to the north pushed Spanish *Florida* ever further south. As for the *Tegesta*, they persisted in the region until 1763 when, with the Spanish surrender to Great Britain, they evacuated to Cuba.

It has been argued that the great bay in the western part of the map, *Bahia del Spiritu Santo*, may be an early representation of the Mississippi River Delta. It certainly



seems to be the source of a great inland system, but one bearing no serious resemblance to the Mississippi, either in the form of the delta or in the river system itself. The earliest maps of the Gulf of Mexico to show the *Bahia del Spiritu Santo* place it in the northwestern quadrant of the Gulf, in the vicinity of Galveston or Matagorda Bay. Some later maps, such as the present map, move *Bahia del Spiritu Santo* to a region just to the west of Florida where, it again is out of place for the Mississippi, but could possibly represent Mobile Bay. While serious exploration was limited, there were navigators who claimed to be familiar with the Gulf Coast even in the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. It is not unlikely that written accounts of visits to the Gulf Coast resulted in many of the bays there being discovered, but not formally triangulated or entered into record. In interpreting these accounts, it is not hard to imagine confused cartographers applying established nomenclature to unrelated geographical elements. Either way, we find the theory that *Bahia del Spiritu Santo* has relationship to the Mississippi to be untenable.

The eastern region appears to derive from the Mercator-Hondius map of what constitutes modern-day Georgia and South Carolina. This region was tenuously mapped by the French during their disastrous attempt to settle Florida between 1552 and 1565, when they were finally driven out by the Spaniards of St. Augustine. Le Moyne was part of this expedition and, although the French settlers likely did very little actual mapping of the interior, good terms with the indigenous Floridians did enable them to produce an impressive and surprisingly accurate early map of the southeast. The Le Moyne-De Bry map, as it is known, identifies several major lakes in the interior of Florida, some of which are noted here. Nonetheless, where Le Moyne was surprisingly accurate, this interpretation, based on Mercator-Hondius, is surprisingly erroneous.

The most significant deviation from Le Moyne's map is Hondius' placement of the River May and Lake Apalachy, here identified as the *Lacus Magnus*. Where Le Moyne correctly mapped the River May (St. John's River, Florida) in an inverted 'V' form, first heading north, then south to meet with a large inland lake (in all likelihood Lake George or one of the other great inland lakes of Florida), Hondius maps the course of the May heading from the northwest, thus relocating the *Lacus Magnus*, or as described by Hondius, *Lacus Aquae Dulcis*, far to the north. This error can be understood in terms of magnetic variation, temperature issues associated with isothermal lines, and navigational errors related to the confusion of the star Asick with Polaris. While Le Moyne correctly located the mouth of the River May at thirty degrees of latitude, Hondius maps it between thirty-one and thirty-two degrees. This may have caused an erroneous association of the River May with the Savannah River. Thus, while the River May dips southward, the Savannah River heads almost directly northwest into the Appalachian Mountains, forming the modern southern border of South Carolina. Hondius, no doubt taking his cue from navigators who rarely trekked inland, therefore rerouted the May River to flow from the northwest. Without an accurate picture of the interior, Hondius followed Le Moyne's example and trans-located the great freshwater lake to the north. Others have speculated that the Le Moyne's River May is in fact the St. John's River, and that the *Lacus Magnus* is the Okefenokee Swamp - but this argument does not coincide with most scholarship. The influence of the Mercator-Hondius firm was so pronounced in Europe that most subsequent cartographers followed their lead, most particular, in this case, De Laet. The *Lacus Magnus* or *Lacus Aquae Dulcis*, or *Great Freshwater Lake of the Southeast*, is of course apocryphal, but it appeared on maps well into the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Another curious and striking element drawn directly from the Le Moyne map is the curious lake just to the northeast of the *Lacus Magnus*. In the Le Moyne map this lake is fed by a great waterfall, which has been the cause of considerable curiosity (see page 50 above). To our knowledge, there are but two maps that depict this lake with the waterfall, the original Le Moyne map and the Mercator-Hondius Map. This map by De Laet includes the lake, but curiously deletes the waterfall. Moreover, close study shows that not only was the waterfall removed, but it was scratched out of the original plate, along with the northern shore of the lake, sometime after the plate was cut. Scholarship suggests that there is only one plate of this map, but we would not be surprised if, at some point, an earlier unpublished proof state including the waterfall is discovered. This smaller lake disappeared from most subsequent maps.

This map is one of a series of North American maps that accompanied Johannes de Laet's *Nieuwe Wereldt ofte Beschrijvinghe van West-Indien*. It was engraved by none other than Hessel Gerritsz, who had been the official cartographer to the Dutch East India Company since 1617. As such he would have had access to unpublished voyage data, which doubtless found its way into this map. Ultimately it was the best map of the region at the time of publication and its influence was significant. Subsequent cartographers, including Blaeu, Jansson, and Sanson followed De Laet's model and nomenclature.





A portion of Nicolas Sanson's 1656 map: *Le Nouveau Mexique et La Floride*

On this eastern portion Nicolas Sanson introduces the interesting concept of *Floride Francois*. This territory, comprising much of modern day South Carolina and Georgia, is a French claim that dates to a 1562 - 1565 French attempt, under Jean Ribault (1520 - October 12, 1565) to colonize Florida. The French established two settlements, made several hundred gallons of wine, nearly died of starvation, and were ultimately whipped out by a Spanish fleet commanded by Pedro Menéndez de Avilés. Menendez

went on to found St. Augustine, the oldest continuously occupied European established settlement within the contiguous borders of the United States. Although the French made no further attempts to establish a colony on the North America's southeast coast, Sanson is clearly using his cartographic influence to advocate for a great French empire in North America. In the following year Sanson used the Florida section of the map for a special treatment on nearly the same scale, which in turn became a type map for the region. *Floride Francoise* on these two maps is probably found for the first time to designate the Georgia-South Carolina area as part of the French possessions in the New World, though earlier maps, such as Lescarbot's 1611, refer to French settlements there.

Within the boundaries of *Floride Francoise* the cartographer identifies two large inland lakes. These apocryphal lakes make their first appearance on the De Bry/Le Moyne map of 1591 (#393.1). The largest of these is represented as the source of the *River May*. In that chart Le Moyne correctly mapped the *River May* [St. John's River] in an inverted 'V' form, first heading north, then south to meet with a large inland lake (in all likelihood Lake George or one of the other great inland lakes of Florida). Hondius on the other hand maps the course of the *May* heading to the northwest, thus relocating the *Lacus Aquae Dulcis*, the larger of the two lakes shown here, far to the north. This error can be understood in terms of magnetic variation, temperature issues associated with isothermal lines, and navigational errors related to the confusion of the star Asick with Polaris. While Le Moyne correctly located the mouth of the *River May* at 30°N, Hondius maps it between 31°N and 32°N. This led to a mis-association of the *River May* with the Savannah River. Thus, while the real *River May* dips southward, the Savannah River heads almost directly northwest into the Appalachian Mountains, forming the modern southern border of South Carolina. Hondius, no doubt taking his cue from navigators who rarely trekked inland, therefore rerouted the *River May* to flow from the northwest. Without an accurate picture of the interior, Hondius followed Le Moyne's example and trans-located the great freshwater lake to the north. Others have speculated that the Le Moyne's *River May* is in fact the St. John's River, and that the *Lacus Aquae Dulcis*, is in fact the Okefenokee Swamp - however, this argument runs counter most scholarship. The influence of the Mercator-Hondius firm was so pronounced in Europe that most subsequent cartographers, including as we see here, Sanson, followed their lead. (#474)





Mercator-Hondius' map of *Virginiae Item et Floridae*, 1606

This map *VIRGINIAE Item et FLORIDAE Americae Provinciae, nova DESCRIPTIO* [Latin for "A New Description of Virginia and Also of Florida, of the Provinces of America] from the Atlas entitled, *Atlas Sive Cosmographicae Meditationes de Fabrica Mundi et Fabricati Figura*, 1606. It is inscribed in Latin, but also has French, Spanish and English labels.

The map itself is derived from two earlier maps of the region: the Florida map of Jacques le Moyne, French Huguenot map maker and artist at Fort Caroline, 1564-65; and the Atlantic coast map of c.1585 by John White, English veteran of the attempted settlement at Roanoke Island in present-day North Carolina.

The map is a beautiful example of the cartographic skill emanating from the Low Countries in the opening years of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Its highly ornate cartouches are attractive as well as informative. The cartouche at the upper left of the map is supplemented with two circular illustrations, one showing a typical Florida Indian town with round houses, the other depicting a Carolina Indian settlement with its oblong lodges. The cartouche on the lower right declares that the meridians of this map converge in the northern latitudes, indicating that it is drawn on a conic projection.

The elaborate compass rose to the left of the lower cartouche is provided as an aid to navigators. It is marked with a *fleur-de-lis* for north, and radiates all 32 compass points outward to the coast and to the map borders. In addition, ships are shown sailing in waters inhabited by several varieties of sea creatures.

There are two vignettes on the map. Beside the compass rose is an illustration depicting how the Florida Indians make boats by burning tree trunks, with the observation that in Virginia they do likewise. Near the left border is a second illustration, this one of an Indian king and queen of Florida.

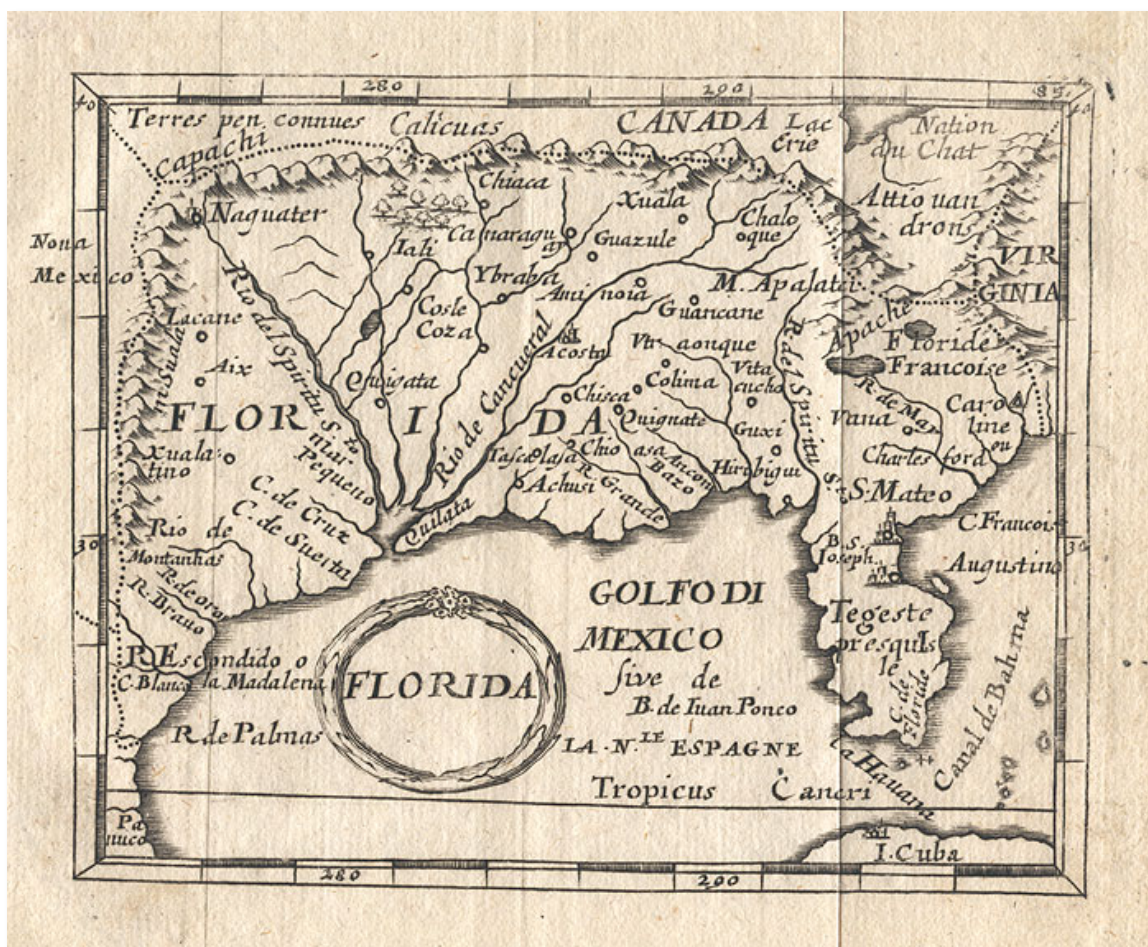
The interior below the main cartouche is meant to be a representation of Florida. One can trace the *R de May*, the *River of May*, or the present-day St. Johns River inward from the coast to a *Lake so large that from one side, one cannot see the other side*, most likely a reference to Lake George.

Geographically, the placement of the Appalachian Mountains in Florida is incorrect, as is the location of the *Lacus et Insula Serrope*, possibly a reference to Lake Okeechobee. The east-west trend of the coastline is exaggerated, and St. Augustine is placed too far south.

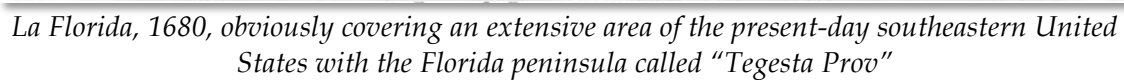
The interior Florida geography is very detailed with Indian settlements rendered in Timucuan names. Above *S. Augustine*, the names of several rivers are rendered in French dating back to the time of Jean Ribault: the *Somme*, *Loyre*, *Charente*, *Gironde*, *Belle*, and *Grande*. At the mouth of the *R de May* near the location of old Fort Caroline is the designation, *Borne de Francois*, [Limit of the French], referring to the French claim on this part of Florida. Farther north, *Port Royal* is labeled, and just to the east, *Charlefort* is referenced. For well over a century, French maps of this region would continue to memorialize both Fort Caroline in present-day Florida, and *Charlefort* in modern-day South Carolina.

Ever since the expedition of Hernando de Soto, European minds had associated the Appalachian Mountains with wealth. Le Moyne's map helped to perpetuate this association. So also did the Mercator-Hondius map, which depicts the "gold-bearing Appalachians," a "lake where Indians find grains of silver," and several Indian towns each having its own "rich king." More than two centuries later, similar reports of gold in the Appalachian Mountains would haunt the Cherokee Indians, and its discovery would drive them from their land.

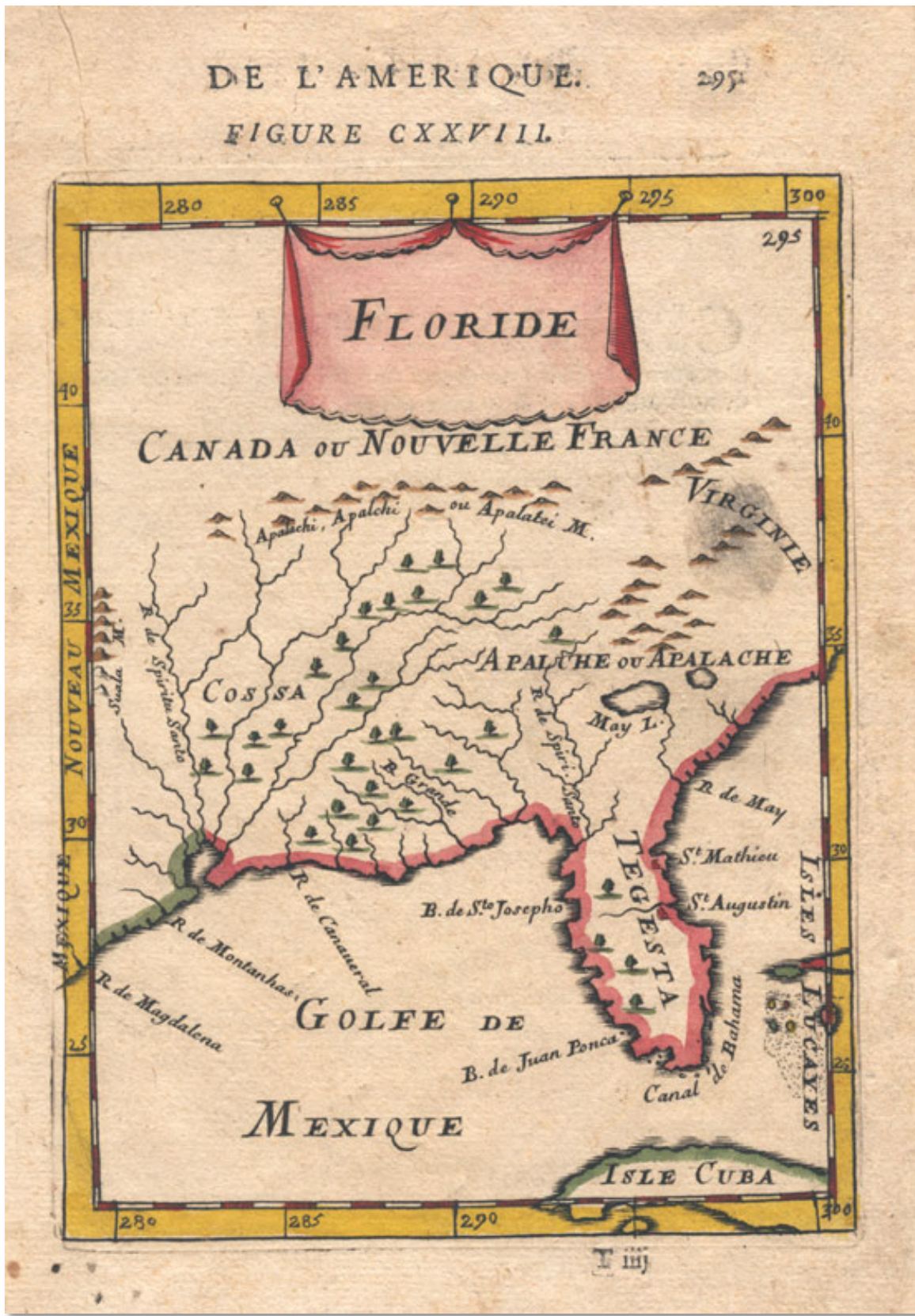




Pierre d'Abbeville du Val, 1665, the Florida peninsula is labeled as "Tegeste" and St Augustine is represented with a graphic

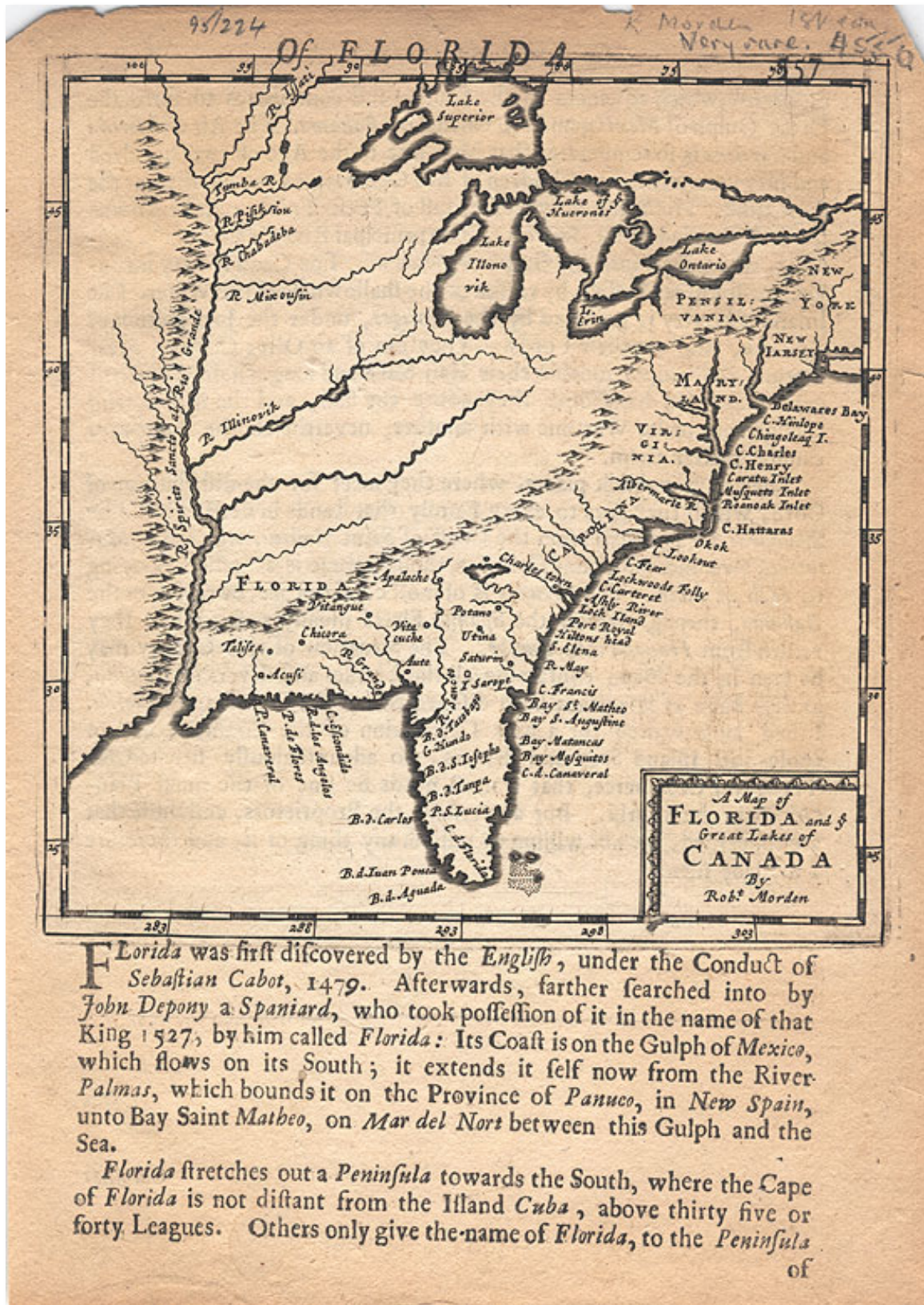






Floride by A.M. Mallet, 1683





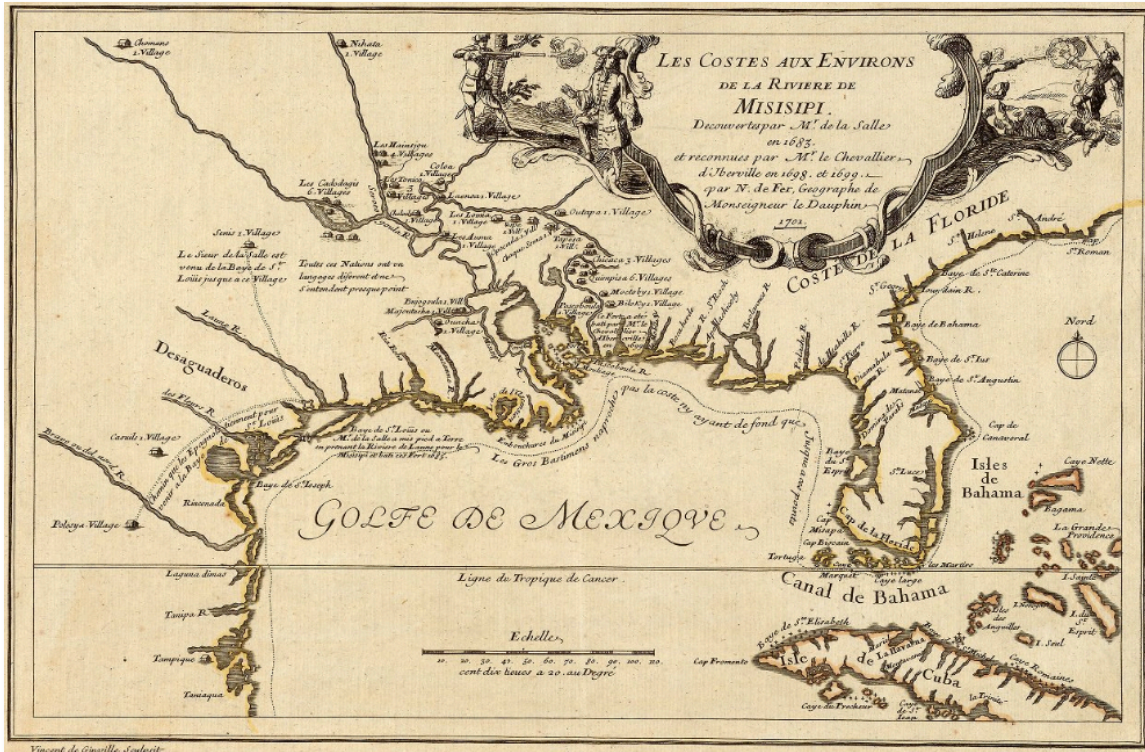
A Map of Florida and the Great Lakes of Canada by Robert Morden, 1688



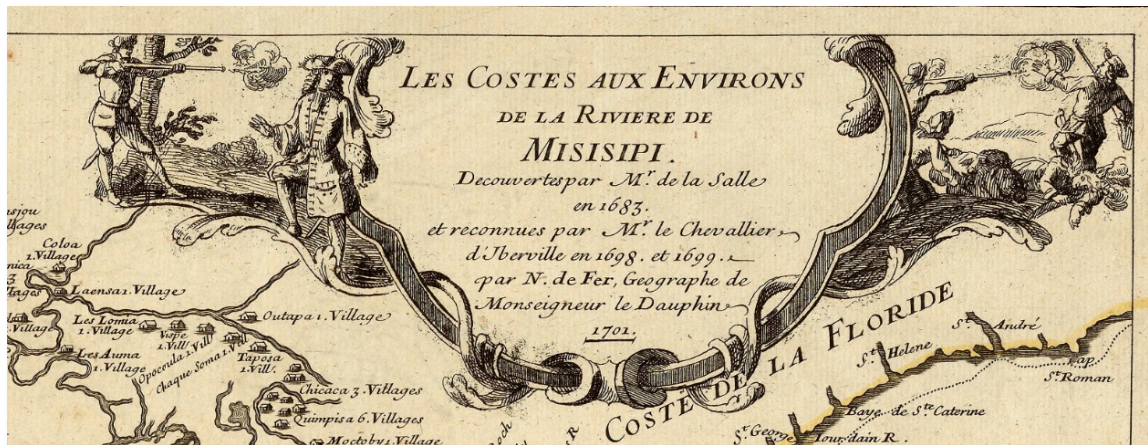


A portion of Vincenzo Maria Coronelli's 1690 map *America Settentrionale Colle Nuove Scoperte Sin All Anno*. "Florida" is depicted as the larger area of the southeast and "Tegest Provincia" as the name of the peninsula. Place Names include St Augustine, Cape Canaveral, Port St Lucia and Tampa Bay (see monograph #488)





Les costes aux environs de la Rivière de Mississipi decouverte par Mr. de la Salle en 1683 et reconnues par Mr. le Chevallier d'Iberville en 1698 et 1699 par N. de Fer, 1701  
Map of the Mississippi River showing the discoveries of Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle, and Pierre Le Moyne d'Iberville. Also gives location of Indian tribes contemporary with the expedition of d'Iberville. "Vincent de Ginville, sculpsit." at lower left, outside neat line.







1707 map of Florida by Pieter van der Aa. The label of "Florida" stretches across the entire south, past the Mississippi and the peninsular area which, again, is called "Tegesta Prov".



Scheeps Tocht van Iamaica by Pieter van der Aa, Leyden, 1714





Les Costes Aux Environs De La Riviere De Misisipi Decouvertes par Mr. De la Salle en 1683, et reconnues par Mr. Le Chevallier d'Iberville en 1698 et 1699 . . . 1705





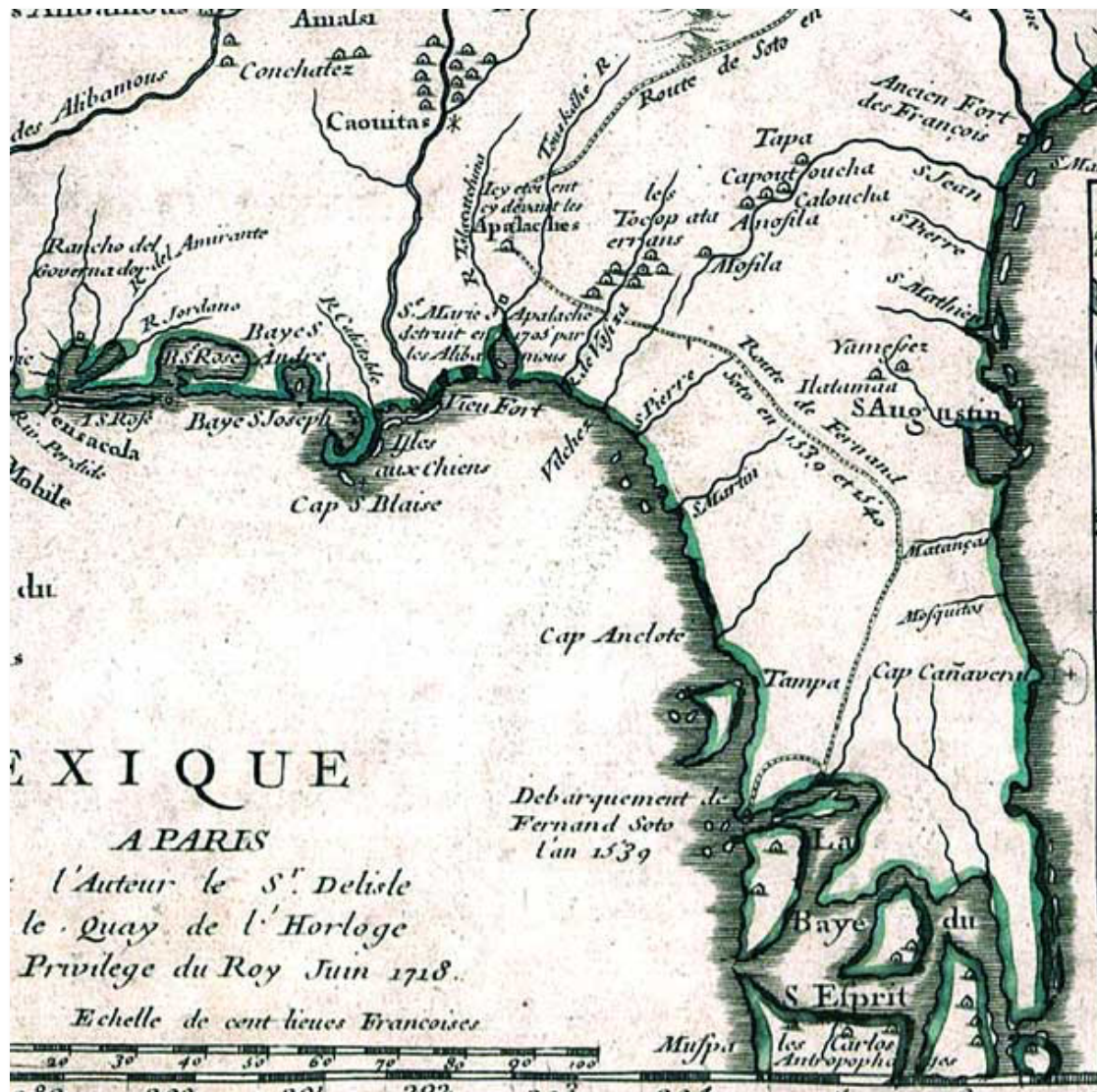
Florida zoo als het van de Spaanschen en Franschen wordt bezeten, door N. Sanson, Geogr. ordre. du Roy, 1705

Map of southeast North America from Virginia to the Mississippi River. Includes the mouth of the Mississippi, here called R. de Spiritu Santo, Also includes part of Cuba, Includes location of tribes of native Americans, settlements picked out in gold, dangerous rocks, and indication of shallows. Relief shown pictorially.



*De vaste kust van Chicora tusschen Florida en Virginie, 1706*





This detail is from the 1718 DeLisle map titled *Carte de la Louisiane et du cours du Mississippi* [i.e. Mississippi]: *dressée sur un grand nombre de memoires entr'autres sur ceux de Mr. le Maire / par Guillaume Del'isle del Academie R'le. des Sciences*, and published by Chez l'auteur le Sr. Delisle sur le quay de l'horloge avec privilege du roy. Here Florida is portrayed as an archipelago. The map represents the travels of Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto in Florida and the southeast in 1539–1542, Alonso de Leon in 1689, and French Canadian explorer Saint Denis in 1713 and 1716, among others. De l'Isle accurately identified the location of many Native American tribes, marked by a small hut symbol and a name. This map shows the *Baye du S. Esprit*, or Tampa Bay, extending eastward to the Atlantic Ocean. Additionally, the Caloosa (Les Carlos) natives at the southern tip of Florida are labeled as cannibals (*Antropophages*). This was the first printed map to show the route of Hernando de Soto in 1539–40 from his disembarkment on the Gulf Coast northward. The map shows coastlines, major rivers, and European and Native American settlements. Place names include Pensacola, Cape Canaveral, Tampa and St Augustine, but. Surprisingly, there is no representation of the St Johns River.





*Amplissimae Regionis Mississippi seu Provinciae Ludovicianae A R.P. Ludovico Hennepin Francisc Miss In America Septentrionali Anno 1687 . . . Johann Baptiste Homann, 1720 (#520)*

Johann Baptist Homann brought considerable scientific skill to the profession of cartography, and matched this with a passion for updating his maps in order to keep them current. As Geographer to the Kaiser and member of the Prussian Royal Academy of Science, he was perfectly placed to become Germany's greatest cartographer.

Homann, of Nuremberg, was the first German map engraver to publish large atlases. He was widely regarded as the best German cartographer of his day.

Homann's long title for this map indicates that it was based on the first-hand experiences of the French Franciscan missionary Louis Hennepin, who explored the Mississippi Valley in the 1670s. The cartouche in the upper left includes a likeness of Father Hennepin, and depicts Niagara Falls, which was documented first by the missionary.

A second cartouche in the lower right shows a Native American family, a buffalo, and an egret. Just to the left of this cartouche on the Atlantic coast are several rivers above present-day Florida whose French names are those on the Mercator-Hondius map of 1606: the *Somme*, *Loire*, *Charente*, *Garrone*, and *Gironde*.

In fact, Homann's map of Mississippi was taken directly from Guillaume de l'Isle's 1718 *Carte de Louisiane* (#520), and uncritically reflected the same French viewpoint



of North America that de l'Isle had espoused. The eastern border of the French claim was drawn just as de l'Isle had rendered it, and the French references to their earlier hold on Carolina were copied intact.

The scope of the map is very large, extending from the Tropic of Cancer in the south to the 50<sup>th</sup> parallel in the north, and from *Nouveau Mexique* [New Mexico] in the west to *Nova Anglia* [New England] in the east. In short, it encompasses a very large part of what would become the United States.

The Mississippi Valley is well delineated. The great river itself is depicted with two names, the *Mississipi*, and the *R. S. Louis*, or St. Louis River, which is shown as originating near the Great Lakes and emptying into the *Golfe du Mexique*. Several of its main tributaries are illustrated, including the Missouri, the Ohio, the *Riviere des anciens Chaoumons* [Cumberland], the *Casquinambaux* [Tennessee], the *Akansas* [Arkansas], and the *Rouge* [Red].

Homann, again following de l'Isle, delineates the geography of Florida with several references to the past. He depicts the de Soto march as a faint line that begins at Tampa Bay and winds its way across much of the Southern landscape. North of the river labeled *S. Jean R.*, or St. Johns River, is the designation, *Ancien Fort des Francois*, a reference to Fort Caroline. It is placed too far north and on the wrong side of the river, but the inclusion of Fort Caroline, even if somewhat wrongly placed, was a reminder of the former French presence in, and claim on, Florida.

Although this map was published in 1763 by Homann's heirs, it depicts the geographic state of affairs in North America at the conclusion of the *War of the Spanish Succession*, known in the British colonies as *Queen Anne's War* (1702 - 13). Earlier French claims on the Mississippi Valley in the 1690s had led to an international race for control of the Gulf coast. Spanish forces reached Pensacola ahead of the French, who went on to occupy both Biloxi Bay and the mouth of the Mississippi. The race was very close, and the French, in turn, arrived just in time to turn back the British. Subsequently, Britain's fears intensified that its colonies were being encircled by hostile powers allied to each other. In the southern colonies, these events set the stage for *Queen Anne's War*.

The connection of these events to Spanish Florida was very direct. Governor James Moore of South Carolina, sensing war, planned an invasion of St. Augustine. When news of the war reached Carolina in 1702, Moore launched his two-pronged attack southward from Charleston, one going by land, the other by sea. After destroying the Spanish missions of the coast north of St. Augustine, Moore's forces turned their full attention onto the city itself. However, the newly finished fortress, the Castillo de San Marcos, withstood the siege, and the Carolinian forces could not breach its walls. Frustrated in this attempt, they looted and burned the city, then retreated to Charleston, taking several hundred captive Indians as slaves.

In 1704, Moore led a second invasion of Spanish Florida, this one directed against the mission district of Apalache in present-day Tallahassee. This attack had disastrous consequences for the mission Indians of Apalache, many of whom were seized by Moore as slaves. Elsewhere in Florida, similar invasions by Carolina Indians allied to the British reached deep into the peninsula in search of other Florida Indians for the Carolina slave markets.

By war's end, the missions were no more, and Spanish Florida lay in ruins. Eventually, its repopulation would come from Indians who, in time, came to be known as Seminoles. In the meantime, Guillaume de l'Isle's map of 1718 had laid the foundation for extravagant French claims for the interiors of North America. In Germany, Johann

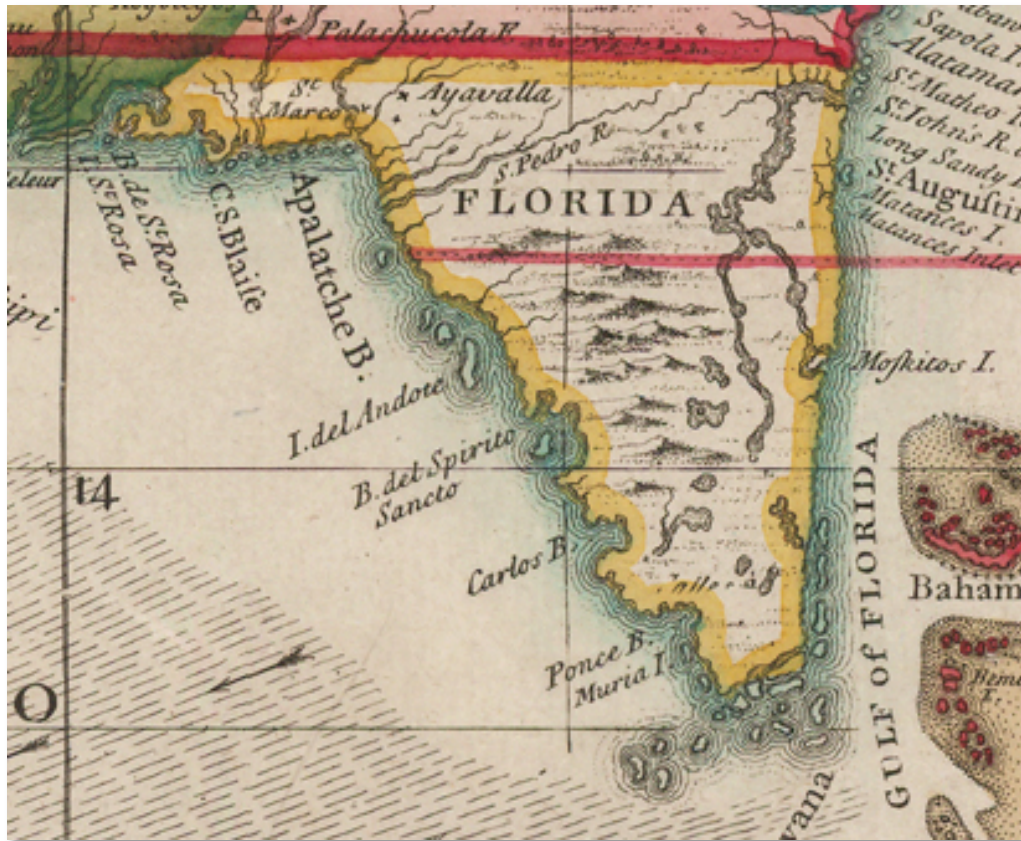
Baptist Homann's reaction to the de l'Isle map was to copy it virtually intact. On the other hand, Herman Moll, Dutch cartographer in the service of the British, vigorously denounced de l'Isle's claims in a map of his own, published in 1720.

In his delineation of the Spanish territory of Florida, Homann shows it occupying primarily the Southeast (a variant issue of the map indicates a much more extensive northern boundary, i.e., reaching as far north as the Appalachians.)" The *Baye du S. Esprit* [Bay of the Holy Ghost - Tampa Bay], which is shown as extending across the Florida peninsula to the Atlantic, and the location of the Carlos Maneaters at the southern tip of the peninsula. Again, the label of "Florida" extended beyond just the peninsular area. (see monograph #520)

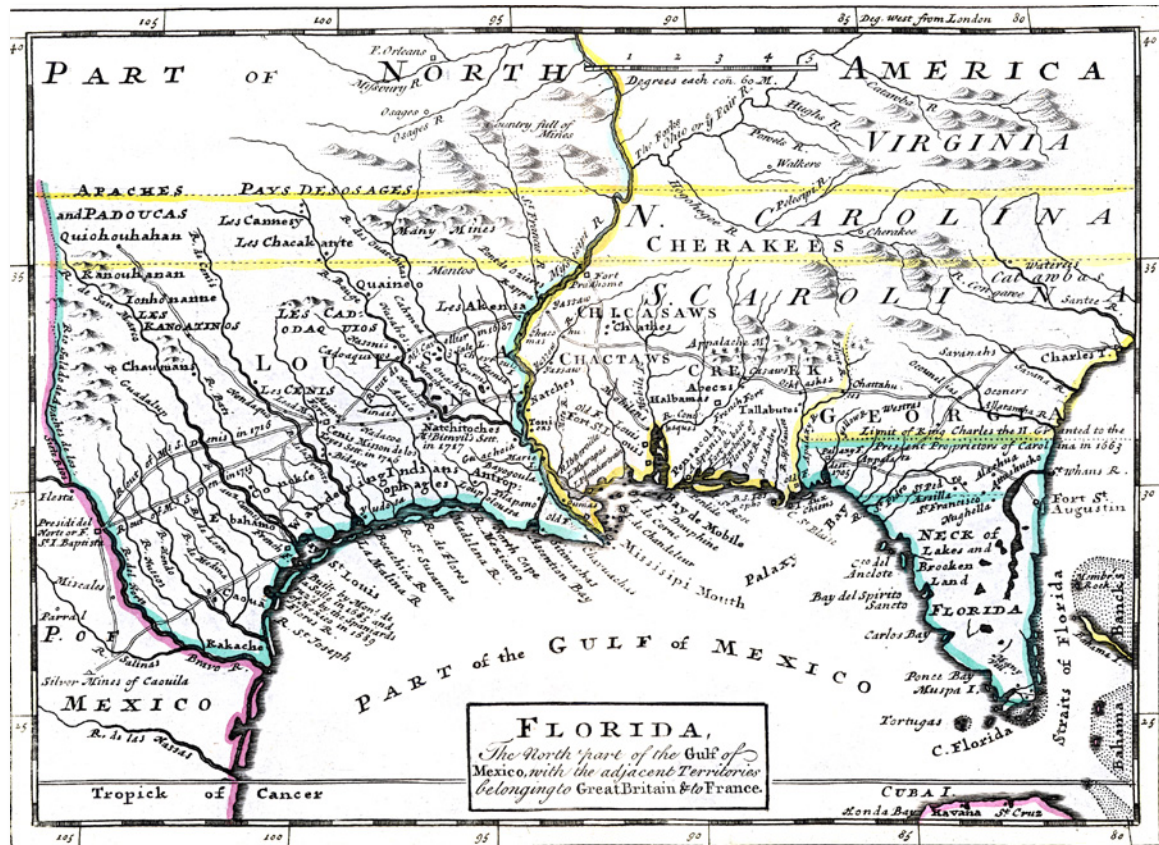


Detail: the Florida peninsula





A portion of Henry Popple's, 1733 map: A Map of the British Empire in America with the French and Spanish Settlements adjacent thereto by Hen. Popple depicting Florida in the old triangular outline, but a reasonable representation of the St Johns River. (see monograph #531)

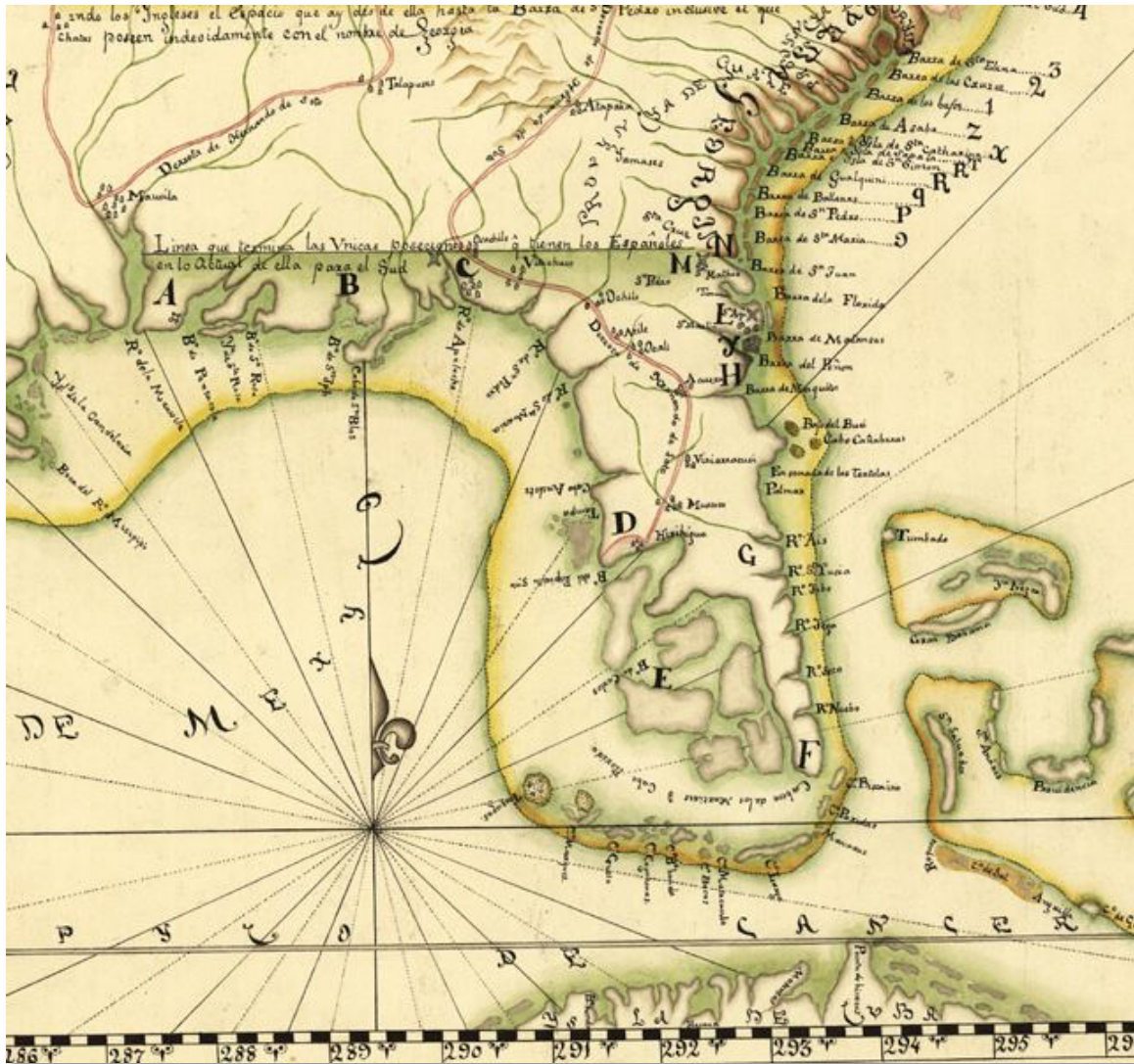


Florida: the north part of the Gulf of Mexico with the adjacent territories belonging to Great Britain and to France, 1736. Place names include Fort St Augustine, Bay del Spirito Sancto [Tampa Bay], St Johns River and Pensacola.





79



This map detail is a 1742 map by Antonio de Arredondo, depicting land claim disputes between Spain and England. The extended title of the map is "Descripcion Geografica, de la parte que los Españoles poseen Actualmente en el Continente de la Florida, del Del Dominio en que estan los Yngleses con legitimo titulo solo en Virtud del Tratado de pases del año de 1670 y de la Jurisdiccion que indevidamente an Ocupado despues de d[ic]ho Tratado, en que se Manifiestan las Tierras que Usurpan....". The map shows the Spanish territory as defined by a treaty made in 1670, including coastlines, European and Native American settlements and forts, and pictorial representation of mountain ranges. A red colored line in the map indicates the route of Hernando De Soto's 16<sup>th</sup> century entrada from the west coast of Florida into the Southeastern part of the United States.





1743/1771 Catesby Map of the American Southeast



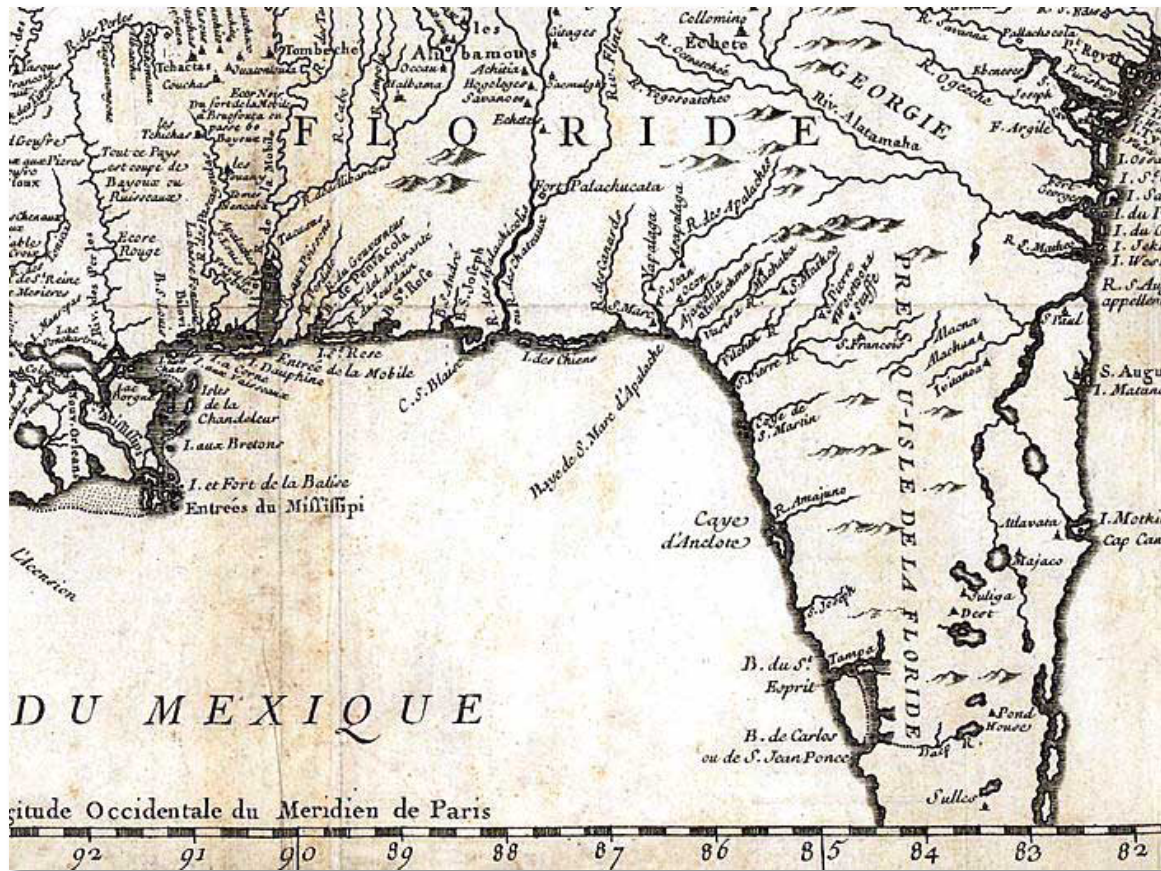


A portion of the Richard Seale 1744: Map of North America With the European Settlements & whatever else is remarkable in ye West indies, from the latest and best Observations showing a poor triangular outline of the Florida peninsula with an obvious St Johns River. #531





*Johann Michael Seligmann, Carolin. Florid. nec non insularum Bahamensium cum partibus adiacentibus delineatio. Nuremberg, 1755. 428 x 584 mm.*



Detail from the 1744 map "Carte de la Louisiane cours du Mississipi [i.e. Mississippi] et pais voisins : dedie M. le Comte de Maurepas, ministre et secretaire d'etat commandeur des ordres du roy / par N. Bellin ingenieur de la marine, 1744 ; Dheulland sculpe"; showing Presquisle de la Floride (the Florida peninsula), the Atlantic coastline and Gulf Coast from near Baye de Carlos (Charlotte Harbor) to the Mississippi Delta. Major rivers, including R. S. Jean [St. Johns River] and R. des Apalachicolas (Apalachicola River) are shown. European and Native American settlements including Tampa, St. Augustine, and St. Marks are shown. Relief is shown pictorially, and longitude is based on the Paris prime meridian.





Florida as displayed on Thomas Bowles 1755 map:

The British & French Dominions in North America, note that the southern portion of the peninsula is missing, the "Spirito Santo Bay" [Tampa Bay] is mis-placed and shown stretching across the entire southern portion of the peninsula. The St Johns River is represented, as is St Augustine, Cape Canaveral and Pensacola Bay.



*A New and Accurate Map of East & West Florida by Thomas Kitchin, 1765*  
*The Florida peninsula is depicted as a severely dissected landmass made up of many large islands*





*A Map of the New Governments of East and West Florida by John Gibson, published in 1763 in The Gentleman's Magazine, London, in relation to the French and Indian War.*

This map of Florida published just after its acquisition from Spain by Great Britain at the end of the French and Indian War, and its division into two Governments, East and West. Like Kitchin's map above, it shows the Florida peninsula as essentially an archipelago. At the lower left corner is an inset "Plan of the Harbour and Settlement of Pensacola," then the capital of West Florida that extends all the way to the Mississippi River. Place names include: Pensacola, Saint Augustine, Cape Canaveral, Tampa, St. Josephs Bay, Espiritu Santo Bay [Tampa Bay] and Key Biscayne. This map, while published in the same year, is based upon Thomas Jefferys' larger map included in William Roberts' *Account of the First Discovery and Natural History of Florida*, 1763.



*Carta Rappresentante la Penisola della Florida, 1763*

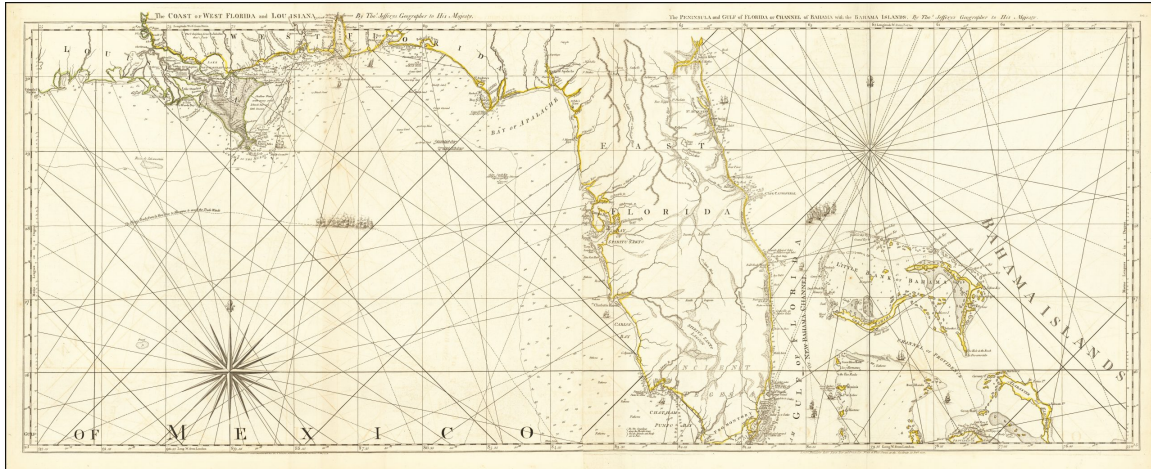
As can be seen in these foregoing examples, the outline of Florida did gradually improve in accuracy, although the progress was not very linear. Due to the fact that the early explorers were seeking "treasure" in terms of gold, silver, the spices of the Far East, etc. and the fact that the indigenous people of Florida were not particularly welcoming to these Europeans, the interior Florida was not extensively explored and mapped because their efforts were diverted to more promising, unexplored areas of the continent. The early explorers found none of the expected "treasure" in Florida and thus moved on to other areas. Exploring Florida's interior meant dealing with exotic creatures like alligators and panthers, extensive swampy wetlands, mosquitoes and hostile inhabitants.

Florida also went through several European attempts at controlling the territory. While Spain predominated, both the French and British attempted to replace the Spanish occupants.





East Florida, from surveys made since the last peace, adapted to Dr. Stork's History of that country, 1764. Place names include: West Florida, Pensacola, St. Johns River, Saint Augustine, Tampa Bay, Bay of Espiritu Santo, Key West.



1775 Jeffreys - *The Coast of West Florida and Louisiana ... [with] The Peninsula and Gulf of Florida or Channel of Bahama with the Bahama Islands ...*

Florida and the Gulf Coast at the outset of the American Revolution, from Jeffreys' *West Indio Atlas*. Jeffery's map is the earliest obtainable large format map to treat Florida and the Gulf Coast region with such remarkable detail, including soundings and rhumb lines. The map identifies the trade routes then being utilized by the English, Spanish, and other maritime sea powers, along the gulf coast, past the Florida Keys and through the channel separating Florida from the Bahamas. Several important anchorage points are noted with ships along the coastline. The map shows many early place names, both along the coastline and the interior.

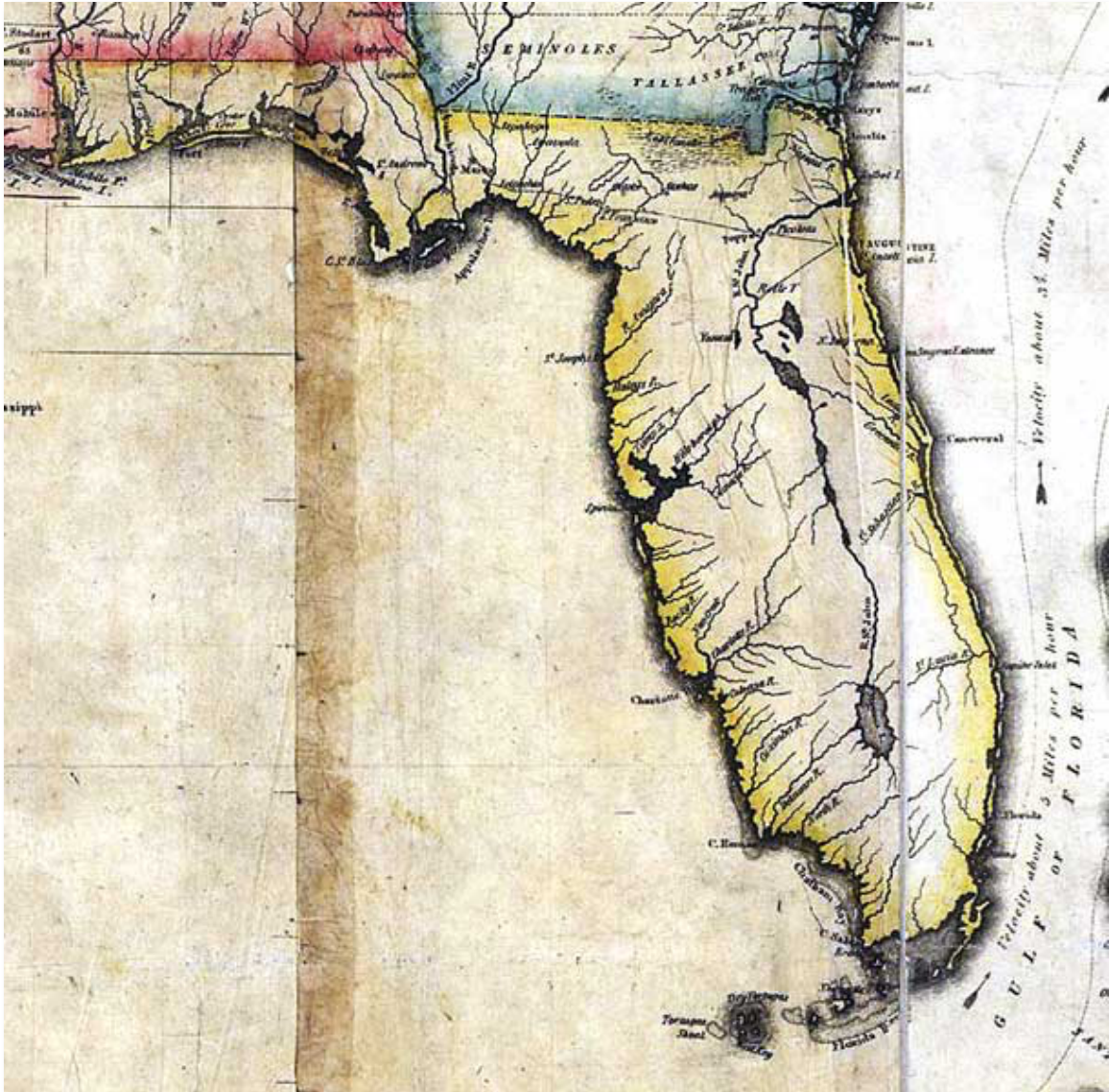
This specific map is in the second state. The first state does not name the *Bay of Spiritu Santo* at the mouth of the Mississippi, and a note that the water is shallow with many islands, but that little is known about the region. The detail in Florida and the Bahamas is excellent, as is the elaborate compass rose and sailing ships. Jeffreys' *West Indio Atlas* was perhaps the single most important work on the region published during the period. It quickly surpassed Mount & Page's *English Pilot, Fourth Book* as the primary source of general working charts for the region, by including highly detailed maps of each of the major islands in the Pacific and highly detailed charts of the Coastlines of Florida, the Gulf, Mexico, Central America and the northern Coast of South America. Two sheets joined as one.





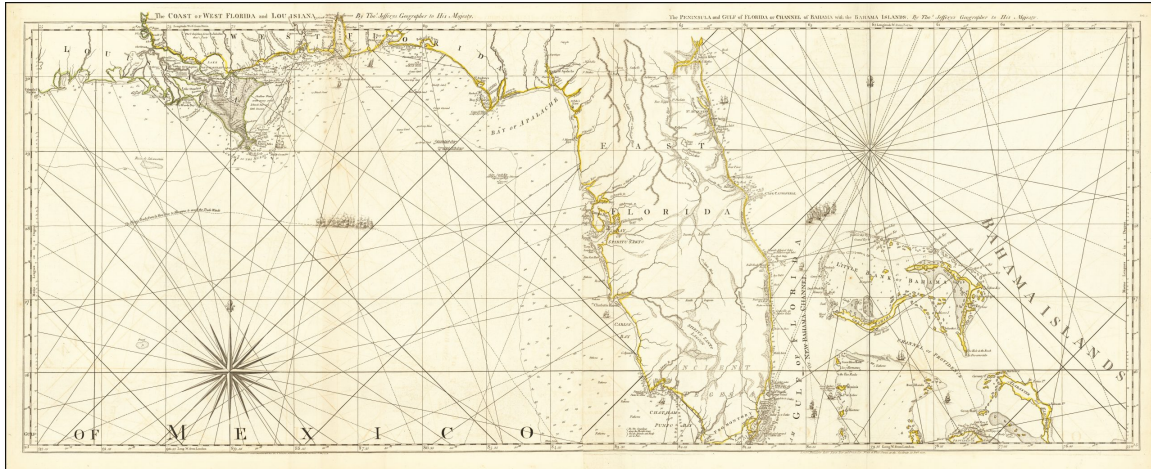
Detail of Florida from *A New and General Map of the Southern Dominions Belonging to the United States of America*, 1794

This is a map of Florida divided into West and East Florida, circa 1794. It is a portion of the map of the Southern Dominions belonging to the United States of America. It shows country borders, cities and towns such as St. Augustine, railroads, and inland waters such as Lake Mayaco or Lake Okeechobee. Place names include: Gulf of Florida, St. Augustin, Saint Augustine, Pensacola, Tampa Bay, Bay of Espiritu Santo, Cape Canaveral, Fort Picolata, Lake George, Lake Mayaco, Lake Okeechobee, Cape Sable, Chatham Bay formerly Bay of Juan Ponce de Leon. Again the territory extends west to the Mississippi River.



A detail of the 1816 map entitled "Map of the United States of America : with the contiguous British and Spanish possessions / compiled from the latest & best authorities by John Melish" showing the Spanish territory of Florida. This map shows coastal features, major lakes, rivers, and settlements. Place names include: Santa Rosa Island, Deer Fort, Oyster Cove, Apalachicola River, St. Marks, St. Marys, Talbot Island, St. Augustine, Saint Augustine, Appalachee Bay, Apalachee Bay, Cape St. Blas, Cape San Blas, Cape Canaveral, Spiritu Santo Bay, Tampa Bay, Charlotte Harbor, Mayaco Lake, Lake Okeechobee, Chatham Bay, Cape Sable, Newcastle Key, Key West, West Key, Dry Tortugas





*Florida and the Gulf Coast at the outset of the American Revolution*

An example of this important early a-sheet map of Florida and the Gulf Coast, from Jefferys' *West India Atlas*. Jeffery's map is the earliest obtainable large format map to treat Florida and the Gulf Coast region with such remarkable detail, including soundings and rhumb lines. The map identifies the trade routes then being utilized by the English, Spanish, and other maritime sea powers, along the gulf coast, past the Florida Keys and through the channel separating Florida from the Bahamas. Several important anchorage points are noted with ships along the coastline. The map shows many early place names, both along the coastline and the interior.

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