Title: *Universalis Cosmographia Secundum Ptholomei Traditionem e Et Americi Vespucci Aliorum Lustrationes*
Date: 1507
Author: Martin Waldseemüller [Hylacomylus]
Description: This highly significant map of the world eluded examination by modern scholars for nearly four hundred years until its re-discovery in 1901 by the Jesuit historian, Joseph Fisher, in the library of Prince von Waldburg zu Wolfegg-Waldsee at the Castle of Wolfegg, Württemberg Germany. Fisher found the only known remaining copy of this map securely bound up in an old book bearing the bookplate of the 16th century German mathematician and geographer Johannes Schöner *(#328).* This volume contained twelve sheets, each 21 x 30 inches, which when laid together disclosed a large map of the world 4 feet 6 inches by 8 feet, which was designated by one of its own inscriptions a *carta marina*, dated on its own face 1516, and bore the name of Martin Waldseemüller as author *(#320).* There were twelve other sheets of the same size in the book, making another world map but containing no author's name or date. It is this map which is here reproduced and examined.

It had long been suspected that Martin Waldseemüller, a professor of cosmography at the school in St. Die, located in the Vosges Mountains of France, had made a map of the world in the year 1507. Henry Harrisse had made this conjecture in his *Discovery of North America*, which he published when the world was celebrating the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America. That Fisher in these anonymous, undated sheets, had found such a map appears from three leading considerations: (1) from the references to such a map by Waldseemüller himself on his map of 1516; (2) from the agreement of the anonymous undated map with an existing map by Glareanus of about the year 1510 *(#322.1),* on which Glareanus asserts that in the making of his map he had followed Waldseemüller, and (3) from the anonymous, undated map's conformity to certain statements by Waldseemüller in his well known *Cosmographia Introductio* of 1507, which is, in fact, an explanatory text for the map in question.

The passage in the *Cosmographia Introductio*, which bears most strongly on the problem of the identification of the map, is as follows:

> The purpose of this little book is to write a description of the world map, which we have designed both as a globe and as a projection *[tam in solido quam plano].* The globe I have designed on a small scale, the map on a larger. As farmers usually mark off and divide their farms by boundary lines, so it has been our endeavor to mark the chief countries of the world by the emblems of their rulers. And (to begin with our own continent) in the middle of Europe we have placed the eagles of the Roman Empire (which rule the Kings of Europe) and with the key (which is the symbol of the Holy Father), we have enclosed almost the whole of Europe, which acknowledges the Roman Church. The greater part of Africa and a part of Asia we have distinguished by crescents, which are the emblems of the Sultan of Babylonia, the Lord of all Egypt, and of a part of Asia. The part of Asia called Asia Minor we have surrounded with a saffron-colored cross joined to a branding iron, which is the symbol of the Sultans of the Turks, who rules Scythia this side of the Imaus, the highest mountains of Asia and Sarmatian Scythia. Asiatic Scythia we have marked by anchors, which are the emblems of the great Tartar Khan. A red cross symbolizes Prester John (who rules both eastern and southern India and who resides in Biberith); and finally on the fourth division of the earth, discovered by the kings of Castile and Portugal, we have

placed the emblems of those sovereigns. And what is to be borne in mind, we have marked with crosses shallow places in the sea where shipwreck may be feared. Herewith we close.

Colored, facsimile copy of Waldseemüller's 1507 map

Martin Waldseemüller's *Universalis Cosmographia secundum Ptholomei Traditionem et Americi Vespucci aliorum Lustrationes* [A Map of the World According to the Tradition of Ptolemy and the Voyages of Amerigo Vespucci] was designed on a single cordiform projection and engraved on twelve wooden blocks (21 x 30 inches each; 54 x 96 inches overall) at Strasburg and printed at St. Die in a an original issue of about 1,000 copies (a thousand copies represented a large edition for this time, immediately preceding post-Columbian world maps, such as Juan de la Cosa's, Cantino's and Caveri's *(#305* thru *#309* - were all manuscript maps). While certainly not the only large world map produced during this dynamic era of exploration, the *Universalis Cosmographia* was one of the first large engraved and printed maps to depict the recent Spanish and Portuguese discoveries of the *Mundus Novus.*

This map is actually a prototype of a (truncated) *cordiform* or heart-shaped projection. Cordiform projections are essentially equivalent (equal area), show true distance from a point (i.e., the North Pole), and have in the most useful, central part of the projection a greater longitudinal than latitudinal extent.

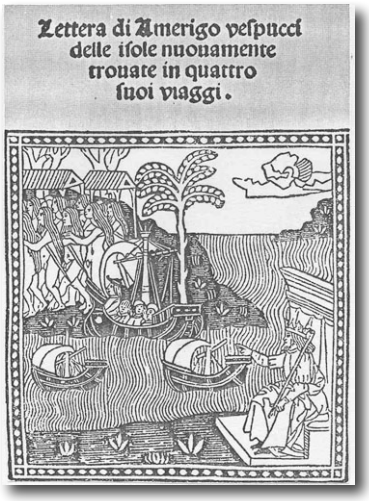
In Plate IX of the map, numbering the plates from left to right, the top row first, Waldseemüller re-asserts that he is particularly delineating the lands discovered by Vespucci. In translation, this inscription in the lower left-hand corner of the map says:

> A general delineation of the various lands and islands, including some of which the ancients make no mention, discovered lately between 1497 and 1504 in four voyages over the seas, two by Fernando of Castile, and two by Manuel of Portugal, most serene monarchs, with Amerigo Vespucci as one of the navigators and officers of the fleet; and especially a delineation of many places hitherto

> unknown. All this we have carefully drawn on the map, to furnish true and precise geographical knowledge.

Vespucci's contribution was, in fact, a fairly considerable one. A Florentine cosmographer, he sailed in 1497 with a commission appointed by Ferdinand and Isabella to investigate reports that Columbus' administration of *Hispaniola* was inept. Much of what Vespucci claimed to have seen on this and other voyages was later called into question by both his contemporaries and, later, by historians.

Vespucci claimed that on his first voyage he made discoveries along the coasts of Honduras and the Gulf of Mexico. He also credited himself with three other voyages by 1503, when he made his last, an investigation of the coast of Brazil for Portugal. He wrote a letter describing his third voyage that was circulated throughout Europe as a tract called *Mundus Novus* [The New World], and later was included by Waldseemüller in his *Cosmographia Introductio* (the *Solderini* letter, see illustration below). In that letter, Vespucci proposed that the new lands ought to be called a "*New World, because none of those countries were known to our ancestors . . . I have found a continent in that southern part more populous and more full of animals than our Europe or Asia or Africa.*"



By the time that Waldseemüller published his *Introductio*, geographers had begun to accept that this really was a "New World", and the convention of showing the new and old worlds in two hemispheres was established with the two inset maps placed on top of Waldseemüller's world map of 1507 (top center). Taken together, these inset hemispheres form the most comprehensive and most nearly correct representation of the world displayed on any map known to have been constructed up to the year of 1507. To avoid confusion hereafter the main portion of the map will be referred to as the "world map", designating the two small representations of the eastern and western hemispheres, placed above the world map, as the "insets". In the western hemisphere inset the two Americas are shown as a continuous landmass firmly joined together by an isthmus, unlike the representation in the world map where the two continents are inexplicably separated by a strait. To the east of the continent in the inset is the Atlantic, to the west is another great sea with the island *Zipangri* [Japan, Marco Polo's *Zipangu*] nearly in the middle of it but closer to the American continent than to the Asian. Westward from that island is to be recognized the eastern coast of Asia, showing *Catay*, or *Cathay*, and other identifiable names. There was no question whatever in the mapmaker's mind, therefore, as to the separate identities of the American and Asian continents.

Even though history books states that Vasco Núñez de Balboa was the first European to sight the Pacific Ocean in 1513, according to Thomas Suárez, it was Martin Waldseemüller's 1507 world map that "invented" the Pacific Ocean. Waldseemüller is credited with being the first European to associate what was then known of the land-

mass that we call North America with the landmass to its south that had already been identified as the *New World*, of separating this newly constituted whole from Asia, and of christening the whole ''America,'' a fourth part of the world previously unknown to European geography. Rarely is it remarked that the invention of America was part and parcel of the invention of something we might call the Pacific Ocean. By configuring America the way he did, Waldseemüller dramatically bifurcated the *Ocean Sea*, in effect hypostatizing a distinct body of water stretching from the newly invented fourth part of the world westward to Asia. Waldseemüller's innovation can be understood by comparing his map to other early maps that depict the New World, such as the Cantino planisphere (1502, #*306*), the Caveri world chart (1504–05, #*307*), the Contarini world map (1507, #*308*), and the Ruysch world map (1507. #*313*). All have been widely reproduced (see, separate monograph on this website). His innovation is most clearly visible in one of the insets to his world map, which depicts a western hemisphere of one hundred eighty degrees stretching from the Canary Islands to East Asia. Some will say that Waldseemüller and the other mapmakers gave us only ''a nameless naked space between the known to the west and the known to the east'' and that it was the Magellan expedition in 1519 that taught Europe just how unexpectedly broad that ocean actually was, that gave it the name by which we know it today. However, as Ricardo Padrón states, it is not necessary to identify a moment, a map, a conquistador, or a mapmaker who ''invents'' the Pacific once and for all, because the most interesting aspect of this invention is its ongoing and even tenuous nature, as well as its clear involvement with emerging imaginaries of empire and world.

What is most important about that ''nameless naked space'' on Waldseemüller's map is neither its namelessness nor its nakedness, but its narrowness. Waldseemüller, like other European mapmakers and like Magellan himself, never imagined just how vast that ocean on the far side of the Americas actually was. Like other early maps that depict the New World in other ways, Waldseemüller's 1507 world map holds America close to Asia. Only eighty degrees of longitude at the equator separate America from Asia, less than half the real distance. The island of *Zipangu* [Japan], moreover, is conveniently located astride that distance, removed from the Americas by only ten degrees of longitude, ready to serve as a convenient rest stop on transoceanic voyages. Waldseemüller's world is one in which the Indies of the classical and medieval tradition are still just over the westernmost horizon of European experience. Neither America itself nor the ocean beyond it should present a significant obstacle to the satisfaction of Columbian dreams of reaching the East by sailing west. In fact, his proto-Pacific, with its convenient *Zipangan* way-station, presents even less of an obstacle to navigation westward from Europe to Asia than does the Atlantic. Samuel Eliot Morrison writes, ''The Pacific Ocean was a watery wilderness as completely unknown to Europeans as Australia or Amazonia. . . . in the absence of any method to find longitude, nobody knew how wide this ocean could be; and all estimates in Magellan's hands, whether literary or cartographical, were at least 80 per cent short of the truth''.

As can be seen on the preceding illustrations, on each side of the insets, Waldseemüller has prominently placed stylized portraits of Claudius Ptolemy and Amerigo Vespucci. Thus Waldseemüller has tried to appeal to both the traditionalists and to the keen interests of Europeans in the new discoveries. This is also clearly evident in his inscription on Plate IV:

> In describing the general appearance of the world, it has seemed best to put down the discoveries of the ancients, and to add what has since been discovered

> by the moderns, for instance, the land of Cathay, so that those who are interested in such matters and wish to find out various things, may gain their wishes and be grateful to us for our labor, when they see nearly everything that has been discovered here and there, or recently explored, carefully and clearly brought together, so as to be seen at a glance.

This map's greatest claim to immortality, however, is contained in the simple word of seven letters, *America*, the earliest known use of that name to describe the newly found fourth part of the world, placed on the southern continent (present-day South America) of the world map only by Waldseemüller. Besides this world map, Waldseemüller also introduced the name *America* in two other media, in the previously mentioned *Cosmographia Introductio* and on his globe (thought by some scholars to be the so-called *Hausslab-Linchoten* globe *(#311),* both also produced in the year 1507).

More than four years had elapsed since Amerigo Vespucci announced what he claimed to be the discovery of an entirely new continent, and as yet that new continent had no satisfactory name. It needed one that would be in keeping with the names of the other continents.

Natives of Espanola had called the great land to the south of their island *Bohio*. The Portuguese used names that Cabral had given: *Vera Cruz* and *Terra de Santa Cruz*; but a name of Portuguese origin was acceptable only to themselves, not at all to the Spanish, who rightfully claimed more than half the continent, and who had touched its shores two years before Cabral and had made extensive explorations of it the year before Cabral. The term used by some of the map-makers, *Land of Brasil*, was confusing, for *Brasil* was the name of an imaginary island located somewhere in the Atlantic, according to popular belief, when there had been no thought of a continent. *Terra dei Pappagalli* [Land of Parrots] was a name only locally applicable to a part of the continent; *Parias* was the native name for a limited region near Trinidad; and *India Nova* [New India] was inaccurate. *Mundus Novus* [New World] and *Terra Incognita* [Unknown Land] were less real names than descriptions, though for many years these last two terms were quite prevalent on maps showing new discoveries. But now the fact that there was a new continent beyond the western ocean had become nearly common knowledge throughout Europe, and there was everywhere a subconscious demand for an adequate name, a universally acceptable name.

In the first years of the new century, a group of scholars decided to produce a revised edition of the *Cosmography* of Ptolemy *(#119)* to meet the urgent need for new maps, according to the new discoveries. It happened that in the Vosges Mountains in the little town of Saint-Die, there was a college under the patronage of the studious Duke Renaud (Rene) II of Vaudemon, of Lorraine, the titular "King of Jerusalem and Sicily", who was there resident. Walter Lud, Secretary to the Duke, and a wealthy man, had established a printing press at St. Die in 1500. The duke and several professors in the college used this press in their geographical project.

Below a sample of the appearance of the word "America" on cartographical material (world maps & volumes) starting 1508 until 1516 (from Stefaan Missinne, "America's Birth Certificate: The Oldest Globular World Map: c. 1507"

IDENFIFICATION -NAMING	SPELLING	c. DATE	TYPE /LANGUAGE	TECHNIQUE	AUTHOR	ORIGIN /LIB.	WIDTH /DIAM	HIGHT	SURFACE
							CM	CM	Square CM
DIE WELT KUGEL	*erfinder America heissen*	1509	VOLUME /GERMAN	WOODCUT	ADELPHUS CASTIG.	STRASBURG	0	0	0
GLOBUS MUNDI	*america noviter reperta*	1509	VOLUME /LATIN	WOODCUT	ADELPHUS CASTIG.	STRASBURG	0	0	0
COSMOGR. INTRODUCTIO (WSM)	*Americi terram sive Americam dicendam*	1509	VOLUME /GERMAN	WOODCUT	ADELPHUS CASTIG.	STRASBURG	0	0	0
JAGGELONIAN GLOBE	*AMERICA NOVITER REPERTA*	c. 1510	GLOBE /LATIN	BRASS	ANONYMOUS	FRENCH	7.35		167.71
PTOLOMY 1482 ULM Inc 2` 984	*Terra America*	1510	MAP COPY /GERMAN	MS INSERTED IN VOLUME	GLAREAN	PTO /BONN VERS	41.5	25	1037.5
PTOLOMY 1482 ULM Inc 2'984	*Terra America* (On the Southern Half)	1510	MAP COPY /GERMAN	MS INSERTED IN VOLUME	GLAREAN	PTO /BONN VERS	41.5	26	1079
COSMOGR. INTROD. 1507 WSM	*america*	1510-1513	MAP COPY /GERMAN	MS GLUED IN VOLUME	GLAREAN	CI/MUNICH VERS	41.5	25	1037.5
METEROLOGIA ARIST. J. FABER	*Nova Americi Terra*	1512	COMMENTARY /LATIN	WOODCUT	COCLAEUS	NUREMBERG	0	0	0
DE GEOMETRIAE Cod. Lat.1 8959-1	*AMERICA; A Lucitamis inventa terra*	c. 1513	MAP COPY WSM/LATIN	HAND COL.MANUSCRIPT	GLAREAN	BASEL /BROWN	26.6	16.7	444.22
DE GEOMETRIAE Cod. Lat.1 8959-3	*AMERICA; Terra nova qua quarta mundi p*	c. 1513	INSET HEMISP. MAP WSM	HAND COL.MANUSCRIPT	GLAREAN	BASEL /BROWN	26.6	16.7	444.22
DE GEOMETRIAE Cod. Lat 1 8959-5	*America pars*	c. 1513	NORTH POLE PROJ./LAT.	HAND COL. MANUSCRIPT	GLAREAN	BASEL /BROWN	20.1	20.1	404.01
DE GEOMETRIAE Cod. Lat.1 8959-6	*America*	c. 1513	SOUTH POLE PROJ./LAT.	HAND COL. MANUSCRIPT	GLAREAN	BASEL /BROWN	20	20	400
COSMOGRAPHIA INTRODUCTIO	*Americi terram sive Americam dicendam*	1513	VOLUME/LATIN	WOODCUT	WALDSEE MÜLLER	STRASBURG	0	0	0
ORBIS TYPUS-ST -BROWN A513/1	*AMERICA*	c. 1513	MAP (COLOR) /GERMAN	WOODCUT	ANONYMOUS (WSM)	GERMAN/BROWN	57	44.5	2536.5
CORNELIUS AURELIUS	*AMERICA*	1514	CHRONYCKEC /MAP/LATIN	WOODCUT	AURELIUS	LEIDEN	50.5	36.5	1843.25
PLANIGLOBE	*AMERICA*	c. 1514	MAP COPY /GORE	MANUSCR.	MELZI (ATTRI)	ITALIAN	12.7	12.7	126.67
COSMOGRAPHIA INTRODUCTIO	*Americi terram sive Americam dicendam*	c. 1514	VOLUME /LATIN	WOODCUT	BOULENGIER	LYONS	0	0	0
SCHÖNER	*AMERI CA, Terra ultra incognita*	1515	GLOBE /GERMAN	WOODCUT	SCHÖNER (ATTRI)	GERMAN	26.8	0	2256.41
LUCULENTISSIMA	*america*	1515	VOLUME /LATIN	WOODCUT	SCHÖNER	GERMAN	0	0	0
SCHÖNER	*AMERI CA, Terra ultra incognita*	1515	GORE FRAGMENT /LATIN	WOODCUT	SCHÖNER (ATTRI)	GERMAN		13.4	75.39
QUIRINI/GREEN GLOBE	*america, america ab inventore nuncupata*	c. 1515	GLOBE /LATIN & ITALIAN	MS PAINTED	ANONYMOUS	ITALIAN	24	0	1809.55
VADIANVS IN POMPONIUS MELA	*america, america Americam a Vesputio repertam*	c. 1515	LETTER/ VOLUME/LATIN	WOODCUT	VADIANUS	VIENNA	0	0	0
MS MAP/KOLLEGIENBUCH	*Terra Incognita America*	c. 1515-18	MAP COPY/GERMAN	MS ON ADDED PERGAMENT	S. MÜNSTER (ATTR)	GERMAN/LATIN	24.3	15	364.5
Sources: Desk Research S. Missinne	TOTAL SUM:								14026.43
	AVERAGE Square Centimetre								935.09
	Dr. Stefaan Missinne, Own Compilation								

The first use of the name "AMERICA:" as placed on South America

Martin Waldseemüller, a native of Freiburg in the Breisgau and appointed Professor of Geography at St. Die in about 1505, made several important contributions to this geographical project. It was at St. Die that he prepared the treatise *Cosmographia Introductio*, which presented this description of itself: *An Introduction to Cosmography, together with some principles of Geometry necessary to the purpose. Also four voyages of Americus Vespucius. A description of universal cosmography, both stereometrical and planometrical, together with what was unknown to Ptolemy and has been recently discovered.* This small treatise was brought out as a pamphlet on April 25, 1507.

Martin Waldseemüller, whose family name actually seems to have been *Waltzemüller*, had a fondness for making up names, as we know from his signing himself *Hylacomylus*, a hybrid composite of the Greek word meaning "wood", equivalent to Wald; the Latin *lacus*, meaning "lake" or "See"; and the Greek word *mill*. In a Latin preface to the *Cosmographia lntroductio* Waldseemüller indulged his name-coining propensity:

> Toward the South Pole are situated the southern part of Africa, recently discovered, and the islands of Zanzibar, Java Minor, and Seula. These regions [Europe, Asia, Africa] have been more extensively explored, and another or fourth part has been seen by the attached charts; in virtue of which I believe it very just that it should be named Amerige ["ge" in Greek meaning "land of"], after its discoverer, Americus, a man of sagacious mind; or let it be named America, since both Europa and Asia bear names of feminine form.

"*Asia*" was a name derived from *Asu*, which meant "rising sun" or "land of light"; while *Europa* was a name that came from *ereb* or *irib*, which meant "setting sun" or "land of darkness". Africa came from a local Carthaginian place name. The name *America* was a variant of the German *Amalrich*, derived from *amal*. In Greek it was *Aimulos*, in Latin *Aemelius*. In all its forms the underlying meaning was that of work; as for example, the word for work in Hebrew is *amal*, and in old Norse *aml*, the consonant sounds of which were retained in the verb *moil*. *Amalrich*, which literally meant "work ruler", or "designator of tasks", might be freely translated as "master workman". A Frenchman said that *Emeric* meant "rich through work".

The name appeared in *Halmal*, a semi-divine mythical forefather or ancestor of the *Amelungen*, or royal tribe of the Ostrogoths, which was called *Ömlunger*. German forms of the name were *Amalrich, Almerich, Emmerich*; the Spanish form was *Almerigo*; the French, *Amalrie* or *Amaury*; in England it was *Almerick*, or *Merica* in old families in Yorkshire. It appeared in feminine forms in *Amelia, Emilia, Emily*; its masculine forms were *Amery, Aymar, Emeric, Emerique, Emery* or *Emmery*. But as Charlotte Mary Yonge wrote in her *History of Christian Names*, it was

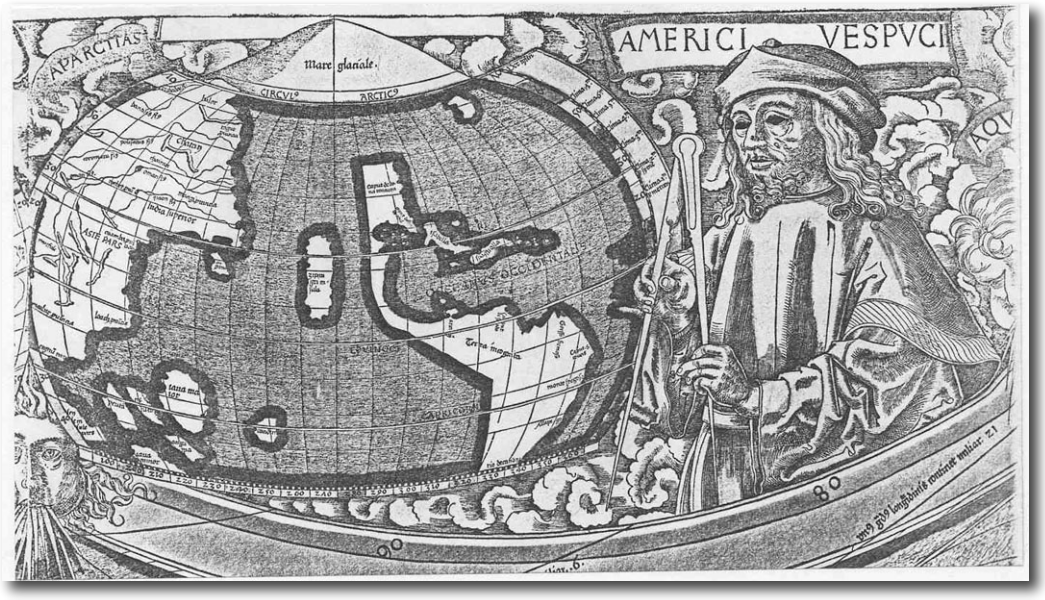
> . . . the Italian form, Amerigo, which was destined to the most noted use . . . which should hold fast that most fortuitous title, whence thousands of miles, and millions of men, bear the appellation of the forgotten forefather of a tribe of Goths - Amalrich, the work ruler; a curiously appropriate title for the new world of labor and progress, on the other side of the Atlantic.

Returning to the map, it is curious to note that while the name *America* appeared on the new continent (South America) of the new hemisphere on the world map, Waldseemüller did not choose to use it on the small inset map of the western hemisphere, where South America is labeled *Terra Incognita*. As will be seen, Waldseemüller's dedication to the name *America* was hardly unwavering, for in addition to this aforementioned apparent contradiction, his latter maps of 1513 and 1516 *(#321)* appeared without his prophetic name of America.

By selecting the name *America* for a major portion of the new discoveries, Waldseemüller was not unaware of the contributions of Columbus and intended no denial of the credit properly due him. On Plate V (the Caribbean area) of his map, Waldseemüller wrote: *These islands were discovered by Columbus, an admiral of Genoa, at the command of the King of Spain.* And at the mouth of the Orinoco River is the following: *All this is sweet water, a statement based upon the well-known story of Columbus' discovery of the fresh water of the Orinoco River* (there is the same reference found on the Bartholomew Columbus map *(#304)* which has *Mar de aqua dolce* [Sea of sweet water] along the northeastern shores of South America).

Early maps of the continents of North and South America used a variety of nomenclature including *Mondus Novus, Terra Nova, Terra Firme, Tierra de Florida, Tierra de Cuba,* for the continents before the name America was universally accepted. Some of these names appeared on one or two maps, others had a broader diffusion for a period of time. The series of published maps using the names *America Mexicana* and *America Peruana* begins with the Petrus Plancius map *Orbis terrarum typus de integro multis in locis emendatus auctore Petro Plancio of 1590*. In 1596 Theodore Bry also used this nomenclature in his map *America sive Novus Orbis*. There is also a 1576 map, *America Peruana*, by Gerrard de Jode depicting South America with this nomenclature for the southern

continent. In all, well over forty published maps dating from 1590 to about 1690 used these names. Upon reflection it is logical that during this period these names were being used as the main titles for the continents, as during that period, Mexico and Peru were the best known geographical entitles on the northern and the southern continents of the Americas.



Western Hemisphere inset with Amerigo Vespucci

Plate I, in the upper left-hand corner, contains an inscription that explains Waldseemüller's ideas as to the location of the lands discovered by Vespucci and Columbus.

> Many have regarded as an invention the words of a famous poet [Virgil] that "beyond the stars lies a land, beyond the path of the year and the sun, where Atlas, who supports the heavens, revolves on his shoulders the axis of the world, set with gleaming stars", but now finally it proves clearly to be true. For there is a land, discovered by Columbus, a captain of the King of Castile, and by Americus Vespucius, both men of very great ability, which, though in great part lies beneath "the path of the year and of the sun" and between the tropics, nevertheless extends about 19 degrees beyond the Tropic of Capricorn toward the Antarctic Pole, "beyond the path of the year and the sun". Here a greater amount of gold has been found than of any other metal.

Instead of "19 degrees" he should have written "29 degrees" which, when added to the 23 degrees of the tropic, would have made the "52 degrees" given in the "third" voyage as Amerigo Vespucci's farthest south. Since Columbus never explored as far south as the equator, the words "*it proves clearly to be true*" are clothed with meaning only in the light of Amerigo's voyages into the southern hemisphere, not at all in the light of the "first" of the "four voyages", from which the dispute ultimately arose as to which could claim priority upon the shore of the new continent, Columbus or Amerigo Vespucci; for that "first" voyage, like all the voyages of Columbus, was entirely north of the equator. In other words, on his 1507 map, Waldseemüller unmistakably showed that in his own

mind he ascribed proof of the existence of the new continent to the Portuguese voyage of Amerigo (the "third" of the "four voyages"), and that Columbus never detoured from his conviction that he had actually reached the shores of Asia (accepting the longitudinally shortened world of Ptolemy, et al), and that it was the acceptance of Amerigo's proof of its existence more so than Amerigo's supposed priority which caused him to name the new continent *America*.

North America? – Florida? the Gulf of Mexico?, the Caribbean

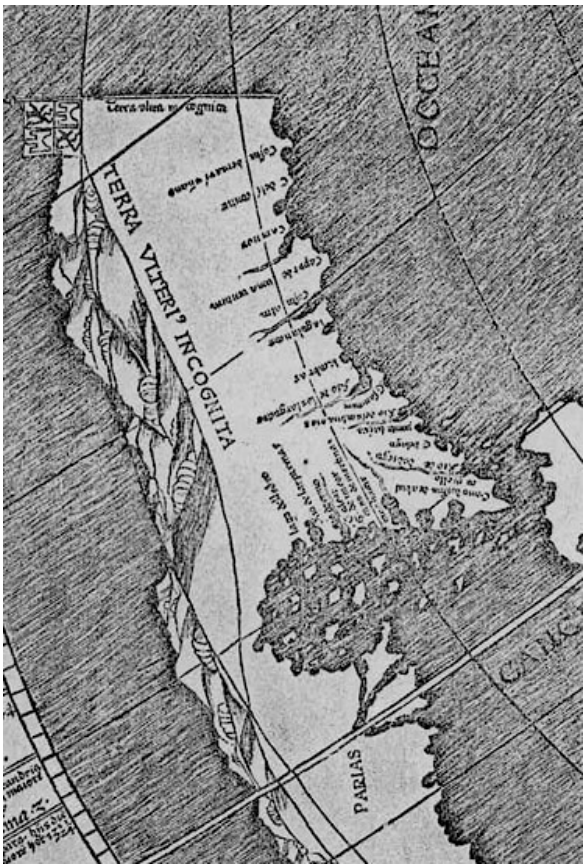
The remarkable geographical features of the Waldseemüller map are, however, more important than the giving of a name to one of them. In addition to the previously mentioned accuracy and 'novelty' of the hemispheric insets, and the picturing of the new southern continent, with its surprisingly correct general contour, the inset map presents a portion of the northern continent as well, and the two are correctly joined together by a narrow isthmus. However, as can be seen above on Plate I of the world map, the two continents are inexplicably separated by a hypothetical strait, connecting the two great oceans. Both the inset and the world map illustrate another important feature, the representation of a great ocean even broader than the Atlantic, between the New World and Asia. The decision to display a large expanse of ocean west of the New World discoveries was, of course, pure conjecture on the part of Waldseemüller since, in 1507, the discoveries of Balboa and Magellan were still a few years off in the future.

These close approximations to geographical actualities were natural corollaries of Amerigo's great 'discovery' of a "fourth part of the world". One is tempted to loose sight of this revolutionary advance over the previously dominating world conception of

Ptolemy in focusing all the attention to the single feature that has made Waldseemüller's map so famous, the first appearance thereon of the name *America*.

The northwest continental landmass depicted on Waldseemüller's world map of 1507 is most often identified as North America. This is not surprising, as its size, position and outline all mimic that continent. This assumption is accepted despite the fact that no designated explorer has been acknowledged as the discoverer of this landmass. Additionally, according to Donald McGuirk, there is a large body of evidence suggesting this assumption is in error. His article presents a review of that evidence and proposes an alternative explanation of this landmass' origin and identity. McGuirk suggests that there is ample evidence that this landmass represents Christopher Columbus' discoveries of the north coast of Cuba on his first voyage and the south coast of Cuba on his second voyage, voyages on which he claims to have discovered Asia.

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, all manuscript maps).* 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 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

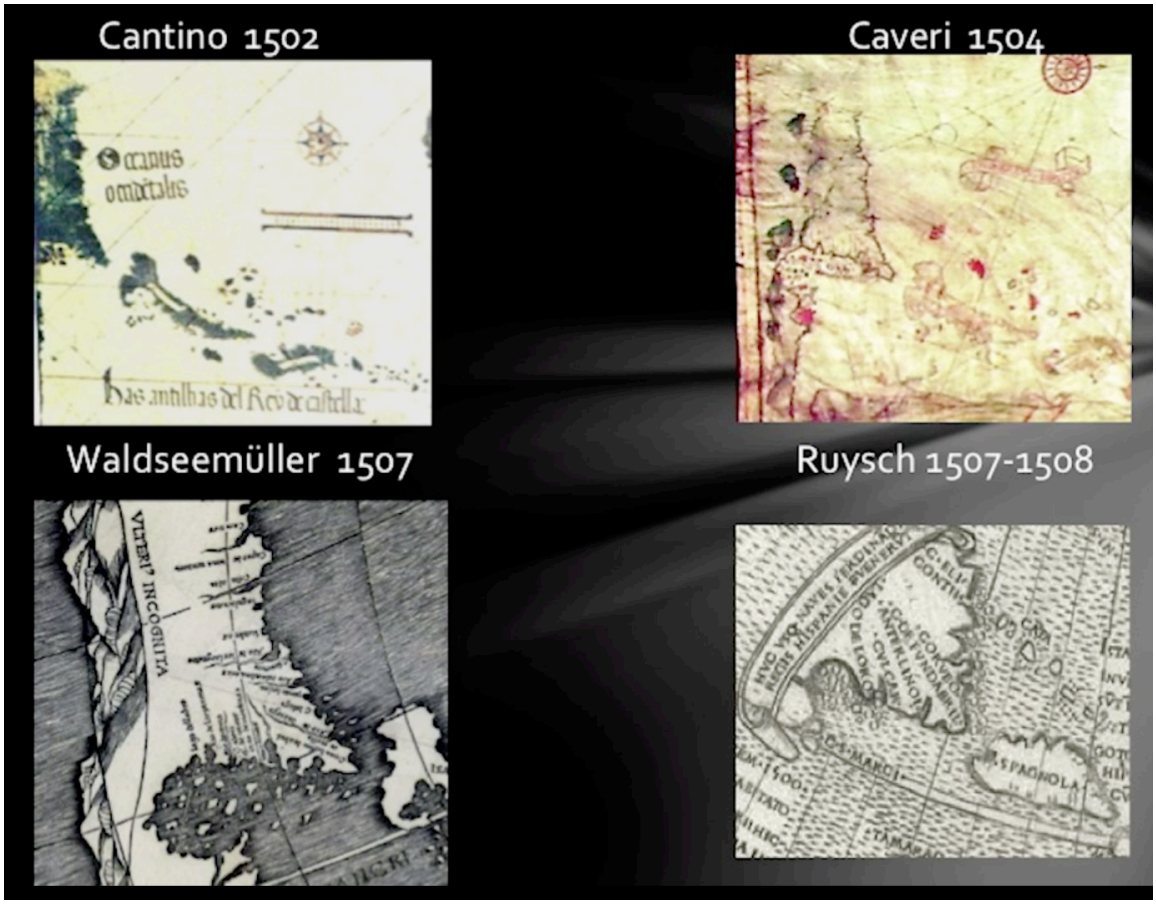
Asia. Some have seen this geography as a fabrication; others have been smart enough (or cautious enough) not to speculate at all on this matter. Donald McGuirk's article suggests that a number of these dissenting theories have all been partly correct: this landmass is Asia, Cuba and a fabrication, all 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.

McGuirk lists 17 historians that speculate that the northwest landmass displayed in this 1507 map represents Columbus' Cuba. These include the following:

- J.G. Kohl, 1869
- James C. Brevoort, 1873
- Henry Stevens, 1888
- C.H. Coote, 1888
- Adolf E. Nordenskiöld, 1889
- George Rogers Howell, 1890
- Henry Vignaud, 1911
- George E. Nunn, 1924
- Samuel Eliot Morison, 1940
- Charles E. Norwell, 1950
- R.A. Skelton, 1960
- Donald McGuirk, 1988
- Paola Emilio Taviani, 1994
- Greg McIntosh, 2000
- Wesley Brown, 2003
- Richard Pflederer, 2013
- Joaquim Gaspar, 2013

One of the "myths" that McGuirk discusses is that the continental landmass shown in the newly discovered west cannot be the coast of Asia (Columbus thought that Cuba was the coast of Asia) because then there would be two coastlines of Asia on the same map. To understand it, one must understand the geographical concepts of Columbus, two of which are key. First, by accepting the length of a degree to be 56.67 miles, Columbus significantly underestimates the circumference of the earth. He then compounds his error by rejecting Ptolemy's estimate of the distance from Spain to the east coast of Asia, and instead accepts the thoughts of Marinus of Tyre. His estimate of that distance was significantly greater than that of Ptolemy. These compounded errors result in his placement of the eastern coast of Asia much closer to Europe; in fact, they result in placing the triangular peninsula of "Asia" almost exactly where Columbus discovered Cuba. This made *Hispaniola* a likely candidate for Japan (*Cipango*).

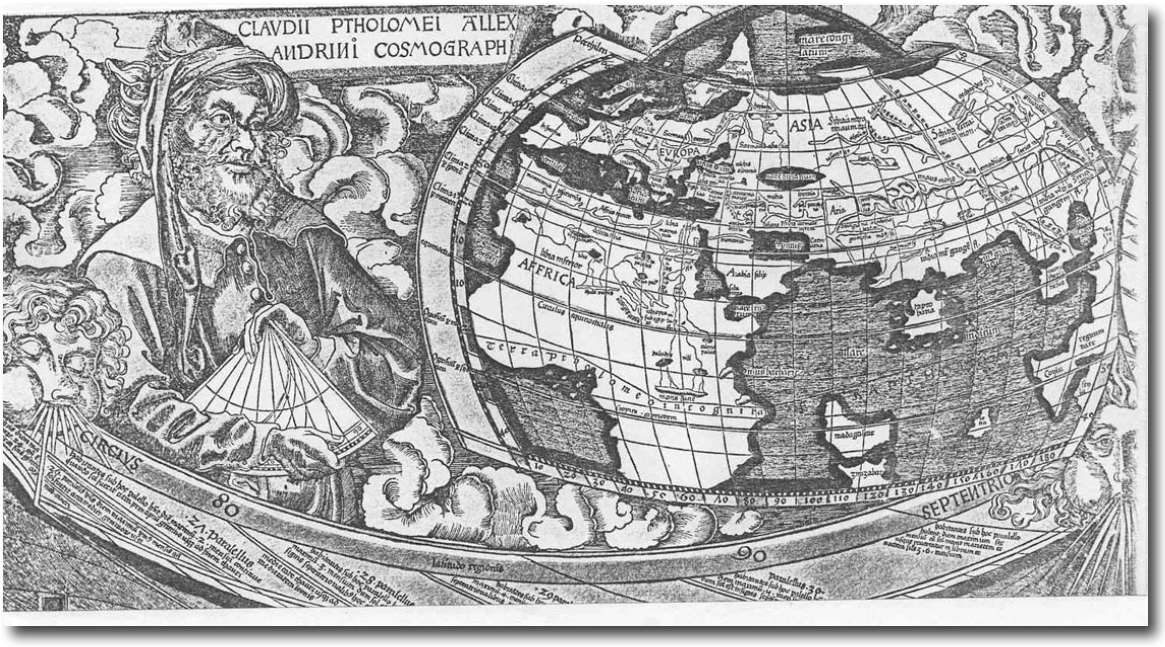
Obviously the cartographers of this time were having great difficulty in reconciling different and sometimes opposing information. The former beliefs about the Asiatic coast were not matching well with the Asiatic coast (i.e. Cuba) described by Columbus. Some cartographers chose not to represent the whole world on their maps, thus alleviating this double Asiatic coast problem. Others chose to make all the new world discoveries islands, thus having only one (i.e., the old) Asiatic cost (Contarini/Rosselli, #*308*). Some chose to show no Asiatic coast (world maps of Johann Ruysch #*313* and Bernard Sylvanus, #*318*). Finally, some chose to show two Asiatic coasts (Cantino #*306* and Canerio #*307*). It was not uncommon in that time, when there was confusion about a particular area, to picture both theories on the same map. The most ingenious approach to this problem was taken by Alessandro Zorzi *(#304).* He pictured the world on three separate maps. Although the coast of Asia is entirely different on two of these views (one more traditional, the other a New World projection, closely resembling the triangular-shaped landmass), he puts the same place-names along both coasts.



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.



Eastern Hemisphere inset with Ptolemy

To the south, the long attenuated form given to both *Terra Ulteri' Incognita* and to America, the west coasts of which are, as it were, rolled back to indicate Waldseemüller's lack of knowledge of these areas. In extending the South American coast to 50 degrees South (high-lighted by the implantation of a Portuguese flag), Waldseemüller avoids committing himself as to the possibility of a passage by sea around this new continent by continuing its land to the edge of, and actually into, the map frame (compare this abrupt treatment with his depiction of Africa, where he is willing to go outside of the preset form of his map frame in order to accommodate the full extension of the continent and thus substantiate the Portuguese proof of a passage to the Far East).

Joseph Fisher and F. von Wieser showed conclusively in their memoir on the unique copy of this map that the primary source employed by Waldseemüller for the general outline of the new discoveries, and, for some place-names and legends, was the world map of 1502 by the Genoese chartmaker Nicolo de Caveri [a.k.a. Canerio], and not merely a copy of this but the actual surviving chart *(#307).* One difference being that the Waldseemüller map is basically a 'land map' and the interiors are somewhat filled-in, whereas the Caveri chart is basically a *portolano*, or nautical chart, with little or no interior detail on the land.

Leaving the New World discoveries, one cannot help but notice the striking resemblance between Waldseemüller's "Old World" outline and that presented by Henricus Martellus Germanus in his map of 1490 *(#256).* As can be seen on the accompanying comparison illustration, except for the southern half of Africa, in both projection and general geographical contours the Old World of Waldseemüller's 1507 map seems to have been virtually copied from Martellus. Curiously enough, though, while accepting the Portuguese delineation of the New World and South Africa, Waldseemüller reverts to the Ptolemaic conception of North Africa and Asia as refined and expressed by Martellus, rejecting the more accurate rendering of contemporaries

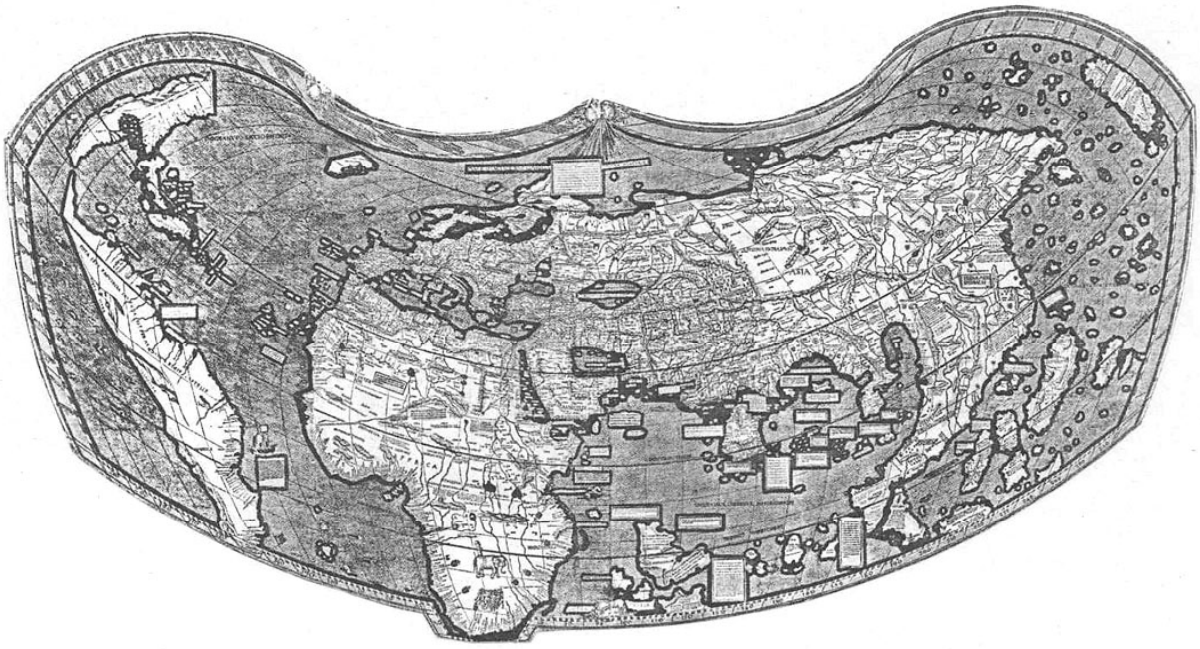
such as Caveri. This Ptolemaic basis results in giving the map an extremely exaggerated representation of the eastern extension of Asia; in fact, the landmass of the Old World, alone, extends through some 230 degrees of longitude. This lack of any substantive modification, of the Far East especially, is understandable in light of the scarcity of verifiable reports from this region and the focus of popular attention on both Africa and the New World.

In Africa, Waldseemüller gives full expression to the recent Portuguese exploration by including the rounding of *Caput de bona Speransa* [Cape of Good Hope], by Bartholomew Diaz and Vasco da Gama, and on to *Calicut*; the depiction of the Arab settlements of *Melinde, Monbatha, Quiloe and Monsanbiqui;* the Portuguese *Padros, T. del Natal* and *Cortada*; and the rivers *R. di Infante, S. Thomas, de Largo* (Espiritu Santu) and *S. Vincente* - all traced by a series of Portuguese flags. Not many interior details are shown to speak of, but a large group of natives is shown at the Cape, and above them, a large vignette of an elephant. While the shape his Africa resembles reality more so than Martellus', Waldseemüller extends the continent to beyond its actual 34 degrees South in a similarly misguided manner as Martellus with Waldseemüller's Africa reaching an inexplicable 50 degrees plus. Waldseemüller placed an elephant and a group of natives in southern Africa on his world map of 1507.

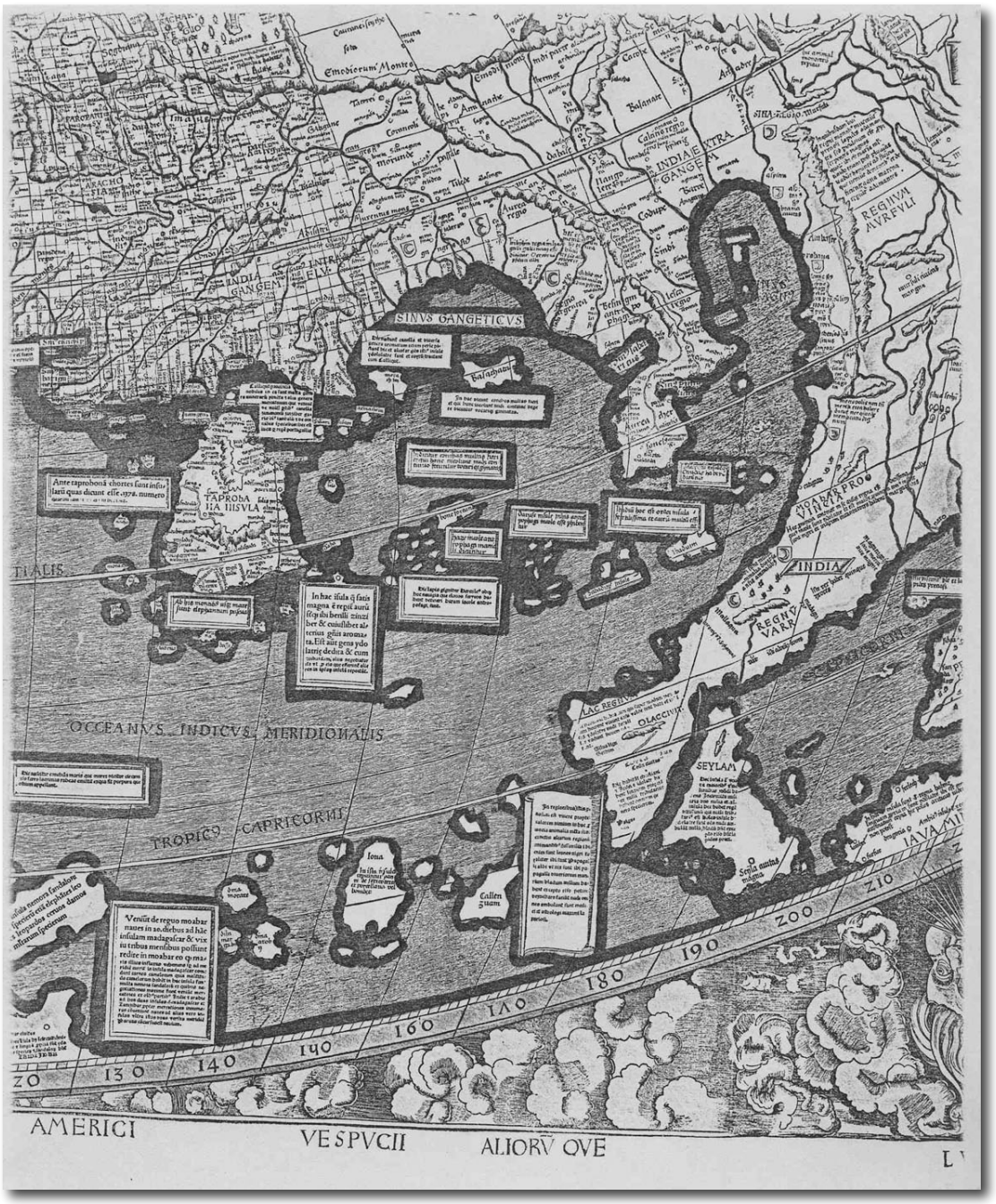
The Indian Ocean area is very representative of the Ptolemaic character, albeit re-interpreted by Waldseemüller, showing a typically enlarged *Taprobana Insula* (the location of which represents a juxtaposition of this island with *Seylam* [Sri Lanka] as found on Fra Mauro's map, #*249*), a reduced Indian subcontinent, an exaggerated Madagascar and Zanzibar and a string of numerous islands (possibly representing confusion in the reports of the Maldive Islands and the Malay Archipelago) that seem to form a series of stepping stones leading to a mysteriously elongated southeast Asian peninsula labeled *India*, located south and east of the *Aureus Chersoneus* [Malay Peninsula] - this extension of Indochina to 25 degrees South, unlike the Martellus map which extends to 33 degrees, is a remnant of the Ptolemaic land-link between Africa and Asia that had formerly enclosed the Indian Ocean *(#119).*

Michael Ferrar examined the projection used by Henricus Martellus and Martin Waldseemüller on their world maps. Ferrar claims that there was confusion with the nomenclature researchers have used to describe the form of these charts. They are not *cordiform* or *pseudo-cordiform* but plain *Ptolemaic* projections as he illustrates in his article "ChKHMW/1; King-Hamy? -/+ Influenced Charts of Martellus 1491 & Waldseemüller 1507". According to Ferrar the Martellus 1489 printed charts *(#256)* are nothing more than an inverted Ptolemaic *First Projection* and then the 1490 chart and the Waldseemüller 1507 chart are just a slightly modified *Projection Two* by Ptolemy.

A comparison of Henricus Martellus Germanus' map of 1490 (outline drawing above) and Waldseemüller's map of 1507 (below)



The African Continent on the Waldseemüller map of 1507



The Indian Ocean on the Waldseemüller map of 1507

Seylam [Sri Lanka/Ceylon], *Iava Major* and *Minor* [Sumatra/Java/Borneo?] are three prominent islands placed to the east and south of this long peninsula; while further to the north can be found the island of *Zipangu* [Japan].

Plate XII, lower right-hand corner, summarizes Waldseemüller's philosophical approach to his map:

> Although many of the ancients were interested in marking out the circle of the land, things remained unknown to them in no slight degree; for instance, in the west, America, named after its discoverer, which is to be reckoned a fourth part

> of the world. Another is, to the south, a part of Africa, which begins about seven degrees this side of Capricornus and stretches in a broad expanse to the south, beyond the torrid zone and the Tropic of Egocerus (Capricornus). A third instance, in the east, is the land of Cathay, and all of southern India beyond 180 degrees of longitude. All these we have added to the earlier known places, so that those who are fond of things of this sort may gaze upon all that is known to us of the present day, and may approve of out painstaking labors. This one request we have to make, that those who are inexperienced and unacquainted with cosmography shall not condemn all this before they have learned that it will surely be clearer to them later on, when they have come to understand it.

In addition to Caveri, Martellus and Ptolemy, other sources synthesized by Waldseemüller include the narratives of Marco Polo, whose data concerning the geography of eastern China and the adjacent islands, though already known to the world in the map of Fra Mauro *(#249),* the Catalan Atlas *(#235)* and in globes such as those of Behaim *(#258),* are now for the first time embodied in a popular printed sheet map; and the Northmen, whose explorations in *Mare Glaciale* and in the neighborhood of Greenland were known from the maps of Claudius Clavus and those of Donnus Nickolaus Germanus.

Thus, derived chiefly from Caveri's map *(#307),* itself based in many particulars upon the Cantino world map of 1502 *(#308),* the Waldseemüller production of 1507 transmitted the features of both to an impressive list of succeeding maps, globes and globe gores reaching to 1520 and well beyond. It was this succession of maps that Harrisse labeled the *Lusitano-Germanic Group*. The transmission of the Cantino-Caveri concept through the members of this notable group created one of the mainstreams of interest in the history of cartography.

Of the same year as the map itself, and displaying its features, was the previously alluded to printed globe issued by Waldseemüller, known today only by two sets of globe gores on uncut sheets. At least twice Henricus Glareanus copied Waldseemüller's world map and insets in manuscript. Thus this ingenious geographer not only preserved the geographical concepts of Waldseemüller, but also carried the representation of hemispheres a step further by the experimental construction in 1510 of the first known maps of the northern and southern hemispheres on a circumpolar projection *(#322.1).* In 1512 appeared, far away in Cracow, Poland, in the *Introductio in Ptholomei Cosmographia* of Johannes de Stobnicza, the inset hemispheres of the 1507 map, copied and reprinted by the Polish scholar without reference to their source *(#319).* In 1515 appeared the printed globe of Johann Schöner and a set of globe gores, sometimes called the *Weimar Globe (#328),* printed about 1518. The *Paris Globe* of 1515, sometimes referred to as the *Green Globe (#342.1),* and the Schöner painted globe of 1520 *(#330)* may also be traced directly to the Waldseemüller globe gores of 1507. And finally, a much-reduced engraved map by Peter Apian *(#331),* also based on the Waldseemüller world map of 1507, was published in 1520. Gemma Frisius and Sebastian Munster edited versions of the latter, so that the Waldseemüller type, or *Lusitano-Germanic Group*, held the field until the advent of Mercator, Ortelius, and the Dutch school of the mid-16th century.

Waldseemüller, himself, continued his cartographic production beginning with a revised edition of Ptolemy's *Geographia* (eventually published by others), which included a supplement composed of 20 maps claimed by some scholars to be 'the first modern atlas of the world'. Two maps in this supplement show the New World

discoveries, *Tabula Terre Nove (#320)* and *Orbis Typus Universalis.* It is important to note here that these two maps actually represent significant retrogression in cartographic expression by the German cartographer. The substantive advancement in geographical concepts found in the 1507 map, i.e., the separation of the new discoveries from Asia, the graphic confirmation of a new hemisphere, the suggestion of the Pacific Ocean, and the fortuitous accuracy of South America, to say nothing of his proposal of a new name befitting the newly discovered fourth part; are all absent from these two maps designed by Waldseemüller just six years later, in 1513. As can be seen, *Terra Incognita* replaces *America* and it is placed up against a frame that avoids any speculation as to the size or shape of the new continent(s). Gone, however, is that mysterious strait that had separated North and South America on the 1507 map. Over to the left, on *Tabula Terra Nove*, apparently referring to the Pearl Coast and perhaps to Honduras, we read the surprising inscription: *Hec terra cum adiacentib insulis inuenta est per Columbu ianuensem ex mandato Regis Castellae* [This land with the adjacent islands was discovered by Columbus of Genoa by order of the King of Castile]. A statement that is in obvious conflict with the thrust of both the graphic productions of 1507 (map and globe) and the text of *Introductio Cosmographiæ* referred to earlier - both prepared more or less as a testimony to Amerigo Vespucci.

But worse inconsistency was to come. In his great and very important world map of 1516 *(#328.1)*, Waldseemüller showed the landmass abutting upon the western border of the map, as in the two above mentioned maps, but here gives it the name *Terra de Cuba Asie Partis*. As a matter of fact, he misinterpreted/misrepresented the Cantino concept by the act of placing the *Terra de Cuba Asie Partis* legend on a landmass which Cantino had not named but which he thought of, in all probability, as part of a new continent entirely separated from Asia.

The regression of Waldseemüller to the Columbian conception of Cuba as a part of the continent of Asia was without question confusing to those who saw the map of 1516 with its specific legend. But it seems that in this particular the map had little influence upon its time. The world picture in the maps and globe of 1507 - the representation, that is, of an American landmass widely separated from the Asian coast with Japan lying between the two - had become the accepted canon in geographic theory and cartographic expression. It is true that certain of the notable globes of the same period as the map of 1516, that is, the *Paris [Green] Globe* of 1515 *(#342.1),* the *Nordenskiöld Gores* of 1518 *(#329),* and the Schöner painted globe of 1520 *(#328)*, in deference perhaps to Waldseemüller apply the name *Cuba* to the landmass, but they discard entirely his designation *Asie Partis*, following instead his bold treatment of the distribution of continents found in the great map of 1507, showing the Americas as separate continents lying between Europe and Asia.

Of the two hemisphere insets found at the top center of the Waldseemüller map of 1507, the eastern hemisphere in this earliest division of the world into two separate hemispheres displayed the boundaries of the Far East virtually as represented by Ptolemy, though in its open Indian Ocean and its delineation of Africa, Madagascar, and Zanzibar, it announced the new era in geographical knowledge. Fittingly this map is flanked by a portrait of the Alexandrian geographer, Claudius Ptolemy. The map of the western hemisphere, flanked by a portrait of Americus Vespuccius, showed a new theory of the American discoveries and the eastern seaboard of Asia with a delineation of the Marco Polo concept of its coast and off-shore islands. This notable map of America and eastern Asia is usually and quite properly placed in the category of imaginary cartography. Its author could not have known from existing data that North and South America formed a continuous land mass joined by an isthmus and separated from Asia by an ocean in which lay Marco Polo's island of Japan. This term "imaginary cartography" is sometimes applied to Waldseemüller's little map of the western world with a suggestion of reproach, but nothing could be more unjust, more indicative of an imperfect comprehension of what had been accomplished in that portrayal. In the making of this map Waldseemüller had employed the process of scholarly conjecture in the most distinguished fashion. In setting forth in two hemispheres a new concept of the world as affected by the recent discoveries, in presenting a North and South America joined by an isthmus as an alternative to his portrayal of them in the large map beneath as two separate continents, he engaged in a notable exercise of the constructive imagination, endowing contemporary scholarship with a scientific hypothesis of the largest importance. If this was a guess, it was an inspired one, for here roughly is portrayed for the first time the world as we know it; here six years before Balboa's discovery is the broad Pacific hypothetically constructed. What a world it would be if even a small proportion of our guesses could be so completely borne out by the facts as afterwards discovered!

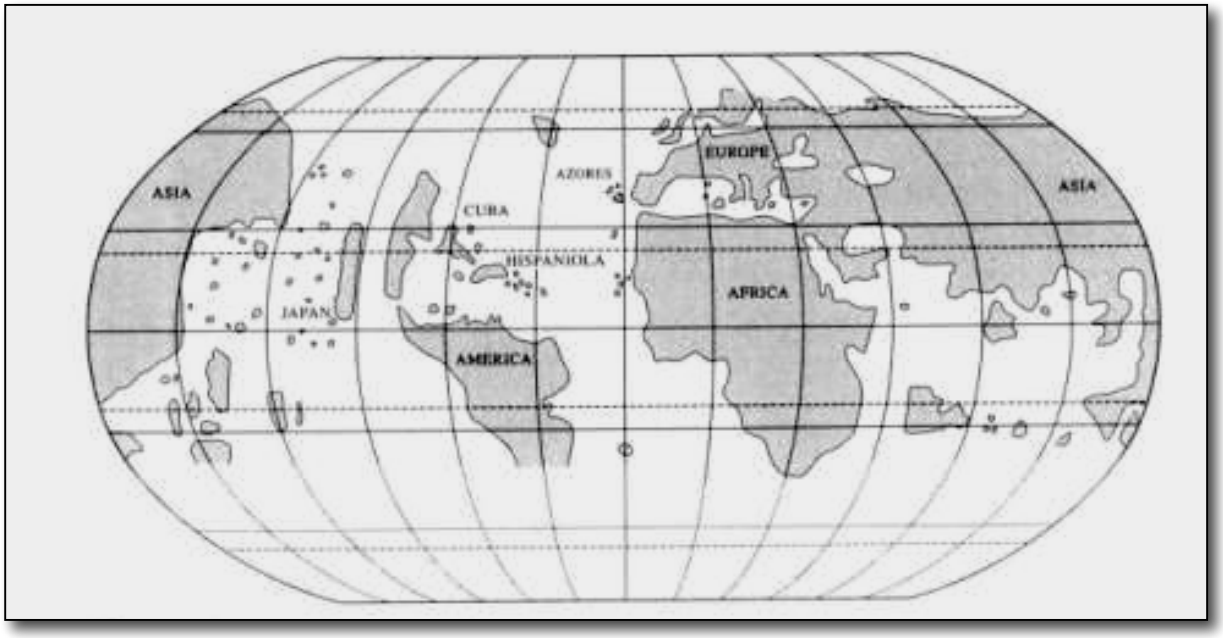
The influence of the Waldseemüller hypothesis is perceptible in the work of other geographers of his time. It may be that it was most widely disseminated among scholars and readers generally through the plagiarism of the two inset maps by the Polish scholar, Joannes de Stobnicza *(#319),* who in 1512 published them in Cracow to illustrate his treatise, the *Introductio in Ptholomei Cosmographiam*. Printed back to back upon a single sheet and folded within an easily portable small quarto volume, it is probable that in the Stobnicza reproduction the maps had a broader influence than in their original form as insets upon the great wall map of 1507.

It was not alone through the Stobnicza western hemisphere map, however, that Waldseemüller's picture of the hypothetical Pacific was carried to the men of the period. This concept was studied and given some measure of contemporary circulation in

manuscript copies and derivatives made by Henricus Glareanus, a contemporary Swiss geographer *(#322.1).*

One can hardly overemphasize the significance in cartographic history, therefore, of the printed Waldseemüller productions of 1507 - world map, insets, and globe gores. The representation in these of the American continents separated from Asia by a broad ocean in the midst of which lay the island of Japan was a splendid synthesis based upon such known particulars as the narrative of Marco Polo, the voyages of the Portuguese to North America by way of the Atlantic and to India by way of the Cape of Good Hope, the discoveries of South America by Vespucci and Cabral, the Spanish discoveries in the West Indies and the Caribbean, and above all, perhaps, the notable manuscript maps of La Cosa, Cantino, and Caveri. The new picture compiled from these varied elements and presented to the literate world in printed form became a factor of the highest importance in developing a new concept of the earth and its divisions, rendering obsolete the Ptolemaic geography that had been accepted and revered since the second century of the Christian era. From it evolved, indeed, today's concept of the geographical divisions of the continents and islands, and of the great waters that form our earth.

On his world map of 1507, Waldseemüller does not depict any sea monsters, but he has several legends describing them in the Indian Ocean. Most of the sea monsters on the 1507 map are dangerous, or are at least of a nature that would discourage navigation. One of the legends off the eastern coast of Africa reads: "*Here is seen the leviathan or sea-dragon which frequently fights against the whale.*" West of the island of *Java Major* there is a legend about a sea monster which reads "*Here is seen the granus, a very large fish that has only one eye in its face,*" and north of *Java Major* there is another that reads "*Here is seen the siren, a horrible sea monster*".



Location: Library of Congress (Elisabeth Harris offered in 1985 key evidence with regard to the dating of the large world map by Waldseemüller at the Library of Congress. She used a hyper spectral image of a pastedown to show text from a palm-reading manual on the reverse side of the lower right sheet. Thereby she proved that the large world map by Waldseemüller named officially "America's Birth Certificate" at the Library of Congress and purchased in 2002 for US

$10 million, as part of a unique sample of an extraordinary woodcut map codex is a reprint in the form of a printers proof from between 1513 and 1516 instead of 1507, date of the first edition, of which there is no extant example. It is now accepted, although rather reluctantly, that the designation of *America 's Baptismal Document* which entails a name but fails the supplementary requirement of a date from the time of the name giving, is no longer valid).

Size: 53 x 94 inches (132 x 236 cm), woodcut on paper, 12 sheets designed to be joined.

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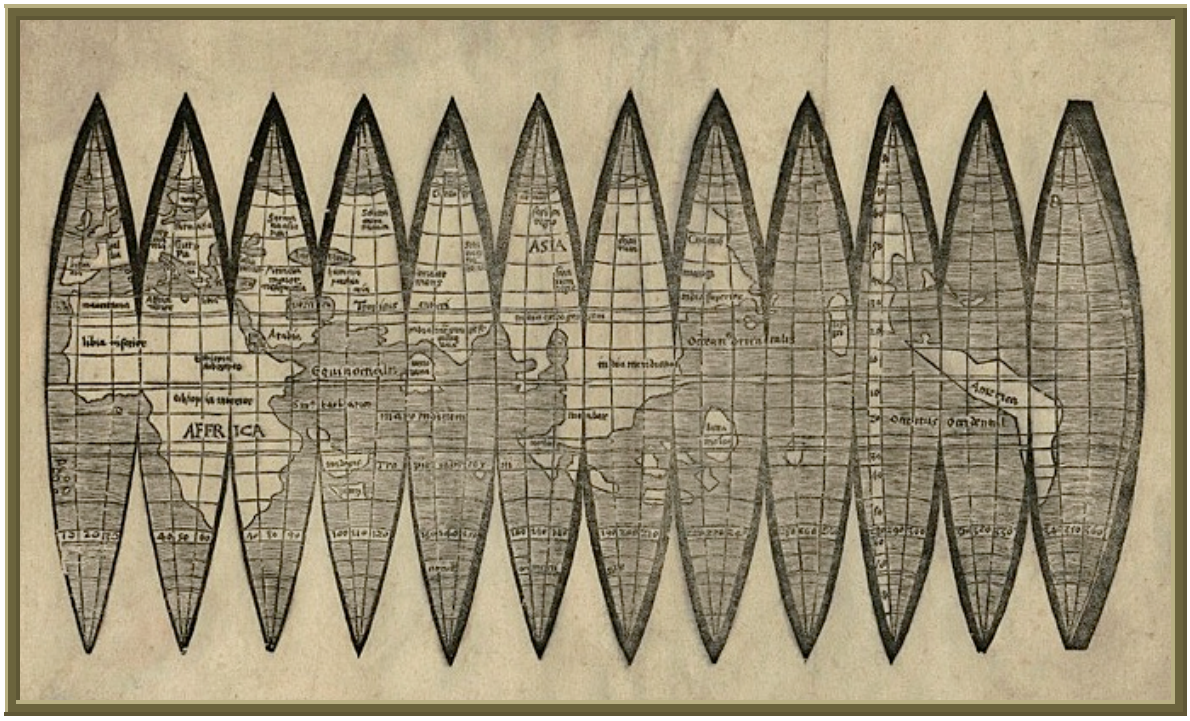
*illustrated


AMERICA'S BIRTH CERTIFICA
The Martin Waldseemuller 1507 World Map



The Hauslab-Liechtenstein globe gores, James Ford Bell University of Minnesota copy

DESCRIPTION: While much has been written about the great wall map, the small set of globe gores, or a "globe map" is also interesting. As the earliest surviving printed globe, it is comprised of twelve elliptical gores. This set of gores has several claims to fame: it is the first to show the Americas as a separate continental landmass distinct from Asia, and the first to show a great ocean (the Pacific) dividing the eastern and western hemispheres, years before Balboa or Magellan. It also lends a very impressive outline to South America, with the southern promontory (modern Cape Horn) being sharply defined. Just as with the wall map, the name '*America*' is clearly printed on the southern landmass of the New World.

This world map in the form of a set of terrestrial globe gores was designed by Waldseemüller in St. Dié in 1507. A set of 12 woodcut gores for a terrestrial globe with a diameter of 12 cm (4.5 inches), overall maximum dimensions of the paper 18 x 34.4 cm, trimmed to the margin of the gores. This globe map and Waldseemüller's large wall map both first published in 1507, became the basis of all world maps and globes for the next 35 years. The existence of sets of gores for making into a globe had been surmised for some time from the discussion in Waldseemüller's *Cosmographiæ Introductio*. In translation: *"We have proposed in this small book to write a sort of introduction to the Cosmographiæ which we have depicted both on a globe and on a plane [chart], but, of course, of smaller dimensions on the globe."* From this citation it appears that as early as April, 1507, the same preparation had been made for a globe that had been made for the issue of a large world map. As mentioned above, the large world map of Waldseemüller's was rediscovered in 1901, but neither a globe nor a set of globe gores is known bearing the indisputable evidence of his authorship. Originally in the library of Prince Liechtenstein, however, was a somewhat crudely executed gore map which, according to certain cartographical students, should be accepted as a copy of the work to which the allusions

are made in the *Cosmographiæ*. These gores, twelve in number, and each 12 cm/4.5 inches in length, this length representing the length of a meridian of the globe ball which the gores could be made to cover, were printed from a wood engraved block. They exhibit the Old World, in the main, in accord with the Ptolemaic idea, and the New World with a close resemblance to the *Caveri* map record *(#307)*, and that of Waldseemüller's world map of 1507. The North American region is nameless, but the South American region bears conspicuously the name *America.* At intervals of ten degrees lines of latitude and longitude are marked. As a title to a lithographic reproduction of this map issued some years since by the Prince, is the subscription "*Erster gedruckter Globus. Martin Hylocomylus (Waltzemüller) Gehort wahrscheinlich zo seinem 1509 herausgegebenen Buche Globus Mundi.*" [First printed globe Martin Hylacomylus (Waltzemüller). Probably belonging to his *Globus Mundus* which appeared in 1509.]

That which adds special significance to this young German's representations of the new lands, so far as a study of globes is concerned, is the repeated recurrence of his particular outlines or contours in the globe maps of the first quarter of the century, produced by such cartographers as Johann Schöner of Nürnberg *(#328)*, and by those of his school. Both the globe and the large world map were doubtless printed in large numbers and widely distributed. Waldseemüller states in a legend on his marine chart of 1516 *(#328.1)* that he had printed his map of 1507 in one thousand copies, but only one of which is now known to exist today. Although it is likely that the simple globe gores, their model or 'marquette' of the New World view, would have been available with each issue of the *Cosmographiae*, the large 12 sheet wall-map, would have been too expensive to be sold as widely.

In a little tract, printed in Strasburg in the year 1509, there appears to be a reference to a globe which may be that constructed by Waldseemüller. It is this reference that the Prince of Liechtenstein, as noted above, has taken as a reference to the gore map, a copy of which is in his collection. The title of this tract reads, (in translation) "*This little book relates how the two most illustrious Lords Ferdinand, King of Castile and Emanuel, King of Portugal have searched through the wide seas and discovered many islands and a new world and naked peoples hitherto unknown.*" "*Printed at Strasburg by Johann Grüniger. In the year MCCCCCIX on Letaro. But how you shall understand the globe and the description of the whole world you will hereafter find out and read.*" Harrisse thinks it probable that a real globe accompanied and was sold with this little volume.

The twelve such gores, measuring 18 x 34.4 cm, corresponding very closely to those described by Waldseemüller were for a long time in the Hauslab-Leichtenstein collection and are now in the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. Another set is in private hands in the United States. Historians are still unable to say positively whether it was a set of gores, or the globe itself, which Waldseemüller promised in a letter, on Easter Monday 1507, to send to Joannes Amerbach (the full text of that letter to Amerbach is provided in Harrisse).

The world outline is a simplified reduction of Waldseemüller's large map of 1507 *(#310)* with relatively few names but (when mounted) sufficient for illustrative purposes. No made-up globe is known.

Martin Waldseemüller, theologian and cosmographer, and Matthias Ringmann, a humanist poet, were brought to the monastery of St. Dié des Vosges in early 1505 by Gualtier Ludd, Secretary to René II Duke of Lorraine, to join a group of scholars called the Gymnasia Vosagense. Waldseemüller and Ringmann started work on a new edition

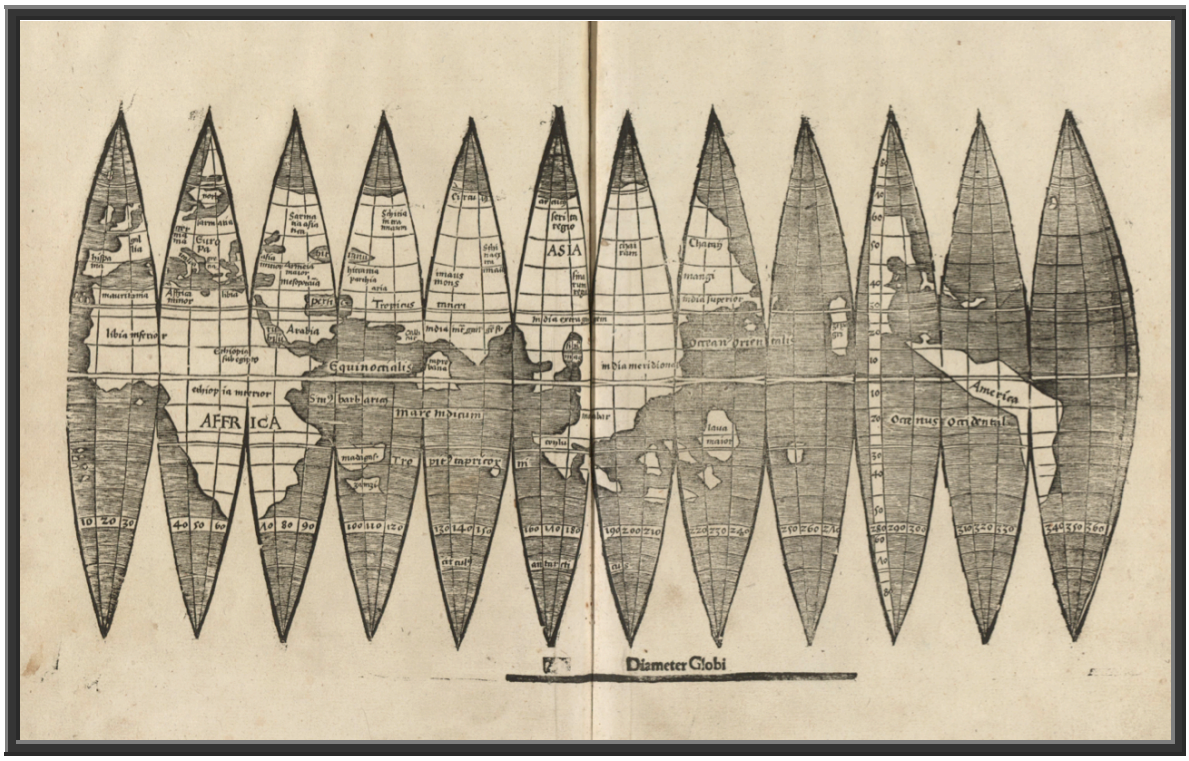
of Ptolemy's *Geographia* that was to combine Ptolemaic maps with a new set of modern maps. They were provided with at least six printed editions and certainly several manuscript versions of the *Geographia*. Their work on this new Geography of the World was combined with an instruction to create a new globe and large map of the world, for which René had received a French translation of Amerigo Vespucci's voyages, and for which they must have also had copies of Portuguese charts either from Portugal or from Italy. Ringmann, a supporter of Vespucci, had already published in 1505 an edition of Vespucci's *Mundus Novus*, a vivid description of the New World which became a bestseller around Europe. By April 1507, Waldseemüller and Ringmann had completed the booklet, *Cosmographiae Introductio*, to accompany the globe and wall-map. It appeared in two editions in St. Dié, the first in April 1507 (2 issues) and in again in August 1507. Another edition was published by Waldseemüller alone in 1509 in Strasbourg. The *Cosmographiae* provided an introduction to the new geography of the world as laid out in the globe and wall-map, and included a Latin translation of Vespucci's four voyages.

Although it is likely that the simple globe gores, their model or "Marquette" of the New World view, would have been available with each issue of the *Cosmographiae*, the large 12 sheet wall-map, would have been too expensive to be sold as widely. Although a text on Waldseemüller's later wallmap, the *Carta Marina* (1516), says that 1,000 copies of the 1507 wall-map were made, it is unlikely that this number were issued, given the survival rate of the one bound copy now in the Library of Congress. The globe map and book had an enormous influence on other geographers, notably Appian, Schöner and Fries, and advanced the science of globe-making and map making particularly in Germany and the Low Countries. Waldseemüller, for many, has become the father of modern geography. The notoriety and mystery that has surrounded both the globe, map and large wall-map has often concentrated on the naming of America, but in truth, given that they named South America after Vespucci, who had sailed furthest around it, it is not unreasonable. It was left to Mercator in 1534 to ascribe the terms North and South America. The mystery of the globe map, its definition of Florida (before it was discovered by the Spanish), the Pacific (before any man had officially seen it), the coast of South America (before anyone had officially sailed along it) and the use of the name *The Western Ocean* in the Pacific, all suggest that the Portuguese may have been more active west of the *Tordesillas Treaty Line* before 1505. Such information would have been kept secret by the Portuguese, and it is perhaps here in this globe that the secrets were first drawn up for a wider audience, particularly since Vespucci's allegiance to Portugal changed when he became a Spanish citizen.

The Waldseemüller Globe Map: A Census Of Copies

1. The *Hauslab-Liechtenstein-James Ford Bell-Univeristy of Minnesota* copy -- this was the first set of the globe gores to be discovered, found in the collection of Baron Franz Ritter von Hauslab in Austria and first shown in 1871 at the Congrès géographiques at Antwerp. By 1890, it had been acquired by the Prince of Liechtenstein and studies by Gallois dated it to 1507 following the realization that it was the lost globe described in the St. Dié editions of the *Cosomographiae Introductio*. In 1949, the Liechtenstein map collection was bought en bloc by the famous New York dealer H.P. Kraus, however the globe map was retained and offered by the Prince at a special auction at Parke-Bernet in New York on 24 May 1950. The catalogue published a reserve of $50,000, but it failed to sell and was

sold privately in 1954 to James Ford Bell for approximately $45,000 (approximately $400,000 today). His map collection is now at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, U.S.A.



Copy of the globe gores in the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universitat, München, ULM Cim. 107#2. Courtesy of the University Library of Munich

2. The *Kraus-Bavarian State Library* copy -- in 1960 at Sotheby's in London, a set of the gores was offered bound into a Ptolemy atlas of 1486. The atlas and gores were bought by H.P. Kraus for £12,500 ($65,000). The prize of his map and globe collection, H.P. Kraus published details of these gores in a special catalogue. They were offered for sale in 1991, and purchased by the Bavarian State library in Munich for approximately 2 million DM (in excess of $1 million).

3. The *Offenburg* copy -- following the publicity regarding the acquisition of the copy above by the Bavarian State library in 1992, in 1993 two researchers, Dr. Obnof and Frau Dr. Vera Sack found a third example of the gores inserted into a copy of Aristotle published in Freiburg in 1541. The Aristotle formed part of the Grimmelshausen-Gymnasium library given to the Stadtbucherei Offenburg. The Aristotle had previously been in a monastic library in Offenburg.

4. A fourth example was discovered in February 2003 when the owner, on reading an article in the Frankfurter Algemeinen Zeitung on the Munich copy, realized he owned a similar map amongst his large collection of books and ephemera.

5. In 2012, a woodcut print for an approximately 11 cm globe was discovered in an ancient volume in the University Library in Munich. This pivotal globular world map, which only differs marginally from the four other extant woodcut copies, attracted worldwide media attention. This discovery ignited the search for the date and the origin of an enigma in the form of an intricate secretive small Renaissance map. The aforementioned had been acquired inserted in a French adapted and unauthorized copy of the *Introduction to Cosmography* dated 1507 and printed in Lyon. The son of a Dutch American immigrant from Flusching, H.C. Kalbfleisch bought it in Paris in 1881 and brought it to New York. The author offers key evidence that this secretive map is an important misinterpreted and misdated cultural historical prototype which antedates five later woodcut copies: Gores in Munich UB, Minnesota-Hauslab, Christie's, SL Munich and Offenburg. He proves that its size and scale are inspired by a calculation of Leonardo da Vinci written down by him in one of his codices, and applied on the 1504 *Ostrich Egg* globe discovered in London 2012 (see #*314, Lenox Globe*).

Evidence was offered that the *Introduction to Cosmography* printed in France in which the engraved map was loosely inserted, together with two additional copper engravings, was printed prior to March 1508. The map research leads to the Benedictine Monk and German Cartographer, globe constructor and astrologist Donnus Nicolaus Germanus. The latter was the first who constructed a terrestrial and a celestial globe for the library of the Pope Pius IVth. The two additional copper engravings lead to the Dutch born medical doctor and astrologer Guillelmus de Wissekerke, supplier of astrological instruments for French Kings and the Duke of Milan. The artistic decorator for these copper engravings L. Boulengier *(#324)* was from the city of Albi in France, a possible key stepping- stone to the Papacy in Rome and the architectural symbol against the Cathars. Boulengier drew his inspiration from the Gothic flamboyant style of that world heritage cathedral in his hometown Albi. He decorated these engravings on behalf of the powerful and art-loving Florimond de Robertet, Secretary of State for three subsequent French Kings including King Francis I, 1515. Robertet was a client of Leonardo da Vinci. A date on two of the three artistic prints is a key date for the royalty of France. The French King Louis XIIth lost the succession of his House Valois-Orleans to the House of Valois-Angouleme after failing to produce a male heir to the throne. The historian Dr. Stefaan Missinne concludes that the small globular map naming *America* is America's oldest *Birth Certificate*. A printed letter early 1508 by Martin Waldseemüller provides the date. The small map precedes by more than eight years the large woodcut world map discovered in 1903 in Castle Wolfegg (Baden-Würtemberg) by the Austrian Jesuit priest Dr. J. Fischer and was sold to the U.S. Library of Congress, in 2001 for $10 million. Missinne's research is a reappraisal. It is also a rebuttal of a mis-direction in the history of science and a misleading error of 133 years ago. It combines medical, geographical, and cultural history of science. It leads the reader through Italian and French Renaissance and concentrates on aspects of architecture, map design, Leonardo da Vinci, French Royalty, and the early discovery of America. It offers a surprising ending leading to the city of New York, named Nouvelle-Angouleme in 1524.

The subsequent research on these five woodcut maps was "combined" and led to the astonishing result that the so called "birth certificates", all bearing the name *America*, led to the dating in one occasion from 1518 (University Library Munich) and in two occasions from as late as 1527. It was believed all these woodcut maps, all intended for a globe diameter of c. 11 cm, were from the first decennia of the 16th century, when Waldseemüller printed the Edit*io Princeps* of his *Cosmographiae Introductio*,. i.e., the

Cosmographic Introduction and of his large world map.

The case that all are intended for a 11 cm diameter of an unmounted globe may sound irrelevant, but the evidence of the discovery of the *Ostrich Egg* globe c. 1504 as the cast model for the *Lenox* globe, preserved at the NYPL *(#314)*, all also having a diameter of c. 11 cm enlarged the sample from two to eight. Therefore Missinne tested the hypothesis that the aforementioned is not a statistical coincidence.

According to most recent findings, the Bavarian State Library's broadside of globe gores by Martin Waldseemüller (BSB call number Mapp. I,5 ua) is not an authentic print but a copy, probably produced before 1960, of the document in possession of the University of Minnesota. This is the conclusion based on the results of a thorough materials science examination conducted by the Bavarian State Library's Institute of Conservation and Restoration. The print, thus far dated from the year 1507, is one of only six known copies.

Facsimile produced by Dr. D. W. Larson, Emeritus Professor
University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, Canada

LOCATIONS: James Ford Bell University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
Kraus-Bavarian State Library, Deutsches Museum in Münich
Stadtbucherei Offenburg

Size: 8.3 inches/21 cm high, with stand

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Facsimile Globe based upon the 12 Waldseemüller Globe Gores

The "Globe Vert" [Green Globe] purported to be by Martin Waldseemüller ~1507, 24 cm diameter, Bibliothèque nationale de France