



Pl. XIII.—Mercator type (the Typus Orbis Terrarum of Ortelius of 1570) No. 82

Notes on
An Exhibit of
MAPS
of the Pacific Northwest
from
The Collection of
EDWARD W. ALLEN

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Tacoma : 1967

FOREWORD

During the Sixteenth, Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries, production of a map was a matter of considerable importance. Here was a gift of knowledge, worthy of the best efforts of geographers, cartographers, artists and engravers. Borders and elaborate cartouches were designed with care; decorative features were placed both on land and on sea and colors were applied with skill and artistry. As a result, many who view ancient maps today are prone to consider them primarily as decorative and exquisite items.

In contrast, those who take time to read maps, to study them in detail, will find them far more than handsome pieces. They are remarkable records of man's knowledge of the world at each period in history. When a series of maps can be viewed in sequence—as in this exhibit—an impressive picture of discovery and exploration unfolds. Here we see horizons extended. Sometimes truth was strangely mixed with conjecture, with "theoretical geography," rumor and error; and then truth emerged plain and clear as surveys were made by those who dared to probe unknown seas, finding and plotting hitherto unknown lands.

Maps numbers 1 through 28 trace the development of the Pacific Northwest and the North Pacific Ocean through successive stages from "Parts Unknown" to a well defined and accurate charting of the coastline.

Also traced in this exhibit is the territorial growth of the United States through the Louisiana Purchase, the Mexican Cession, settlement of the Oregon Question and of the San Juan Dispute. Finally, these maps give a clear picture of the changing boundaries of Washington Territory and of Washington State.

The fifty-six maps in the exhibit present a record of history: not only of this region, but also of man's knowledge of the globe over a period of four and one-half centuries.

These items are displayed through the courtesy of Mr. Edward W. Allen, Seattle attorney, collector, scholar and author. Mr. Allen has served the United States with distinction as a member and chairman of the International Fisheries Commission, the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission, and the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission. A graduate of the University of Washington, in 1947 he was named *Alumnus Summa Laude Dignatus*. He is a member of The Explorers Club and of the Board of Curators of Washington State Historical Society. Mr. Allen is author of "North Pacific" (1936), "Laperouse, A Checklist" (1941), "Dancing Tales and Other Fishy Jingles" (1951), and "The Vanishing Frenchman: The Mysterious Disappearance of Laperouse" (1959).

—ROBERT HITCHMAN

THE MAPS

1. 1511: *The World*. First Venice edition of Ptolemy's Geography, edited by Bernardus Sylvanus. Until the discovery of Waldseemüller's map of 1507, this was considered to be the first printed map to show any part of North America. Heart shaped. Woodcut. Black and red.
2. 1525. *Terra Nova*. Waldseemüller. Strasburg edition of Ptolemy.
3. 1542. *Novae Insulae*. From the Sebastian Munster Basle edition of Ptolemy.
4. 1570. *Typus Orbis Terrarum*. Ortelius. Colored, with blue background.
5. 1587. *Orbis Terrae Compendiosa Descriptio*. Mercator. Two spheres. Colored.
6. 1570. *Hemispherium*. Cornelius de Jode. Showing California located within the Arctic Circle.
7. 1597. *Septentrionalium Terrarum de Scriptio*. "The Four Polar Islands." M. Mercator. Colored.
8. 1605. *America Siue India Nova*. Michaellem Mercator. Colored Outline and Border.
9. 1626. *America*. John A. Speed. Shows California as an island. Colored Outline and Border.
10. 1630. *Nova Totius Terrarum*. G. Blaeuw.
11. 1630. *Nova Totius Terrarum Orbis Geographica ac Hydrographica Tabula*. Henr. Hondio. Colored Outline and Border.
12. 1650. *America Septentrionalis*. Joannes Janssonius. Amsterdam. Colored Outline.
13. 1651. *A New and Accurat Map of the World*. (Two hemispheres). John A. Speed. Colored.
14. 1666. *Paskaerte van Nova Granada en t'Eylandt California*. Pieter Goos. Amsterdam. Colored Outline.
15. 1671. *Novissima et Accuratissima Totius Americae Descriptio*. Johanem Ogiluium. Colored Outline and Border.
16. 1680. *North America Divided into its Principall Parts*. Wm. Berry. California as an island, separated by the "Sea of Vermejo." The Pacific Ocean called the "South Sea." Colored Outline and Border.
17. 1696. *Pascaert van de Zuyd Zee*. Joannes van Keulen. Colored Outline.
18. 1702. *Planisphaerium Terrestre Sive Terrarum Orbis*. Carolo Allard. Two large hemispheres, several small ones. Colored.
19. 1706. *America Septentrionalis, Novissima*. P. Schenk. Colored.
20. 1712. *North America*. Herman Moll. California as an island; "Straits of Anian" above. Colored Outline.
21. 1722. *Carte d'Amerique*. Guillaume Delisle. Colored Outline.

22. 1740. *Diversi Globi Terr-Aquei*. The world; two hemispheres. Matth. Seutteri. Colored.
23. 1748. *Essay d'une Carte Réduite Contenant les Parties Connues du Globe Terrestre*. N. Bellin.
24. 1758. *Carte Réduite des Parties Septentrionales du Globe*. M. Bellin. Quadra is said to have carried a Bellin map on the Sonora when he explored the Pacific Northwest Coast.
25. 1758. *Nouvelle Carte, des Découvertes faites par des Vaisseaux aux Cotes inconnues de l'Amerique Septentrionales avec les Pais Adjacents*. St. Petersburg. Imperial Academy of Science. Amsterdam chez Marc Michel Rey.
26. 1760. *L'Amerique, divisee en ses principaux Etats* . . par le Sr. Janvier. Paris. Colored Cartouche and Outline.
27. 1776. *Nuove Scoperte de' Russi al Nord del Mar del Sud si nell Asia, chi nell America*. Antonio Zatta. Colored Cartouche and Outline.
28. 1788. *Mappa Mondo O Descrizione General del Globo Terraqueo Con i Viagge e nuove scoperte del. Cap. Cook*. Antonio Zatta. Roma. Colored Cartouche and Outline.
29. 1808. *North America*. Robert Wilkinson. Colored.
30. 1814. *North America*. Thompson's New General Atlas. London. Colored Outline.
31. 1816. *North America*. C. Smith. Irregular boundary. Colored.
32. 1820. *Nord America entworfen un gezeichnet*. C. F. Weiland. Weimar. Irregular boundary. Colored Outline.
33. 1820. Small map of *Pacific Ocean*. Colored.
34. 1822. *Northwest Coast of North America*. Russian Possessions. H. S. Thompson. Colored.
35. 1823. *British North America shewing the Discoveries of Ross, Parry & Franklin*. Sidy Hall, engraver. Colored.
36. 1825. *Carte de L'Amerique Septentrionale*. A. H. Brue. Paris. Colored Outline.
37. 1829. *U. S. Geography*, Olney. Oregon Territory extends north. Colored.
38. 1829. *British North America*. Sidney Hall. Colored Outline.
39. 1834. *British North America*. Baldwin and Cradock. Canada to Columbia River. Colored Outline.
40. 1834. *British North America*. 50° 40'. Colored Outline.
41. 1835. *British America*. John Tallis & Co. Colored Outline.
42. 1838. *Territory of Oregon*. N. H. Stansbury.
43. 1838. *North America*. F. G. Bradford. Colored.
44. 1842. *America*. J. Arrowsmith. Vague boundary. Colored.
45. 1848. *North America*. Augustus Mitchell. Colored.
46. 1848. *Oregon and Upper California*. Mitchell. Oregon includes what now is Washington. Colored.

47. 1849. *U. S. Geography*. Interesting boundary. Colored Outline.
48. 1851. *Nord Amerika*. J. Calvin Smith. 54° 40'. Colored.
49. 1852. *North America*. Gall & Inglis. Edinburgh. Canada to Columbia River. Colored.
50. 1852. *The State of California and the Territories of Oregon and Utah*. Hildburkhausen. Oregon Territory includes Washington. Colored.
51. 1853. *Washington and Oregon*. Colton. Oregon and Washington shown as separate territories. Colored.
52. 1855. *North America*. Colton. Oregon and Washington territories. Colored.
53. 1855. *Part of the Territory of Washington*. James Tilton, Surveyor General.
54. 1859. *Washington and Oregon*. Colton. Washington Territory includes land now Idaho. Colored.
55. 1860. *Oregon and Washington and a part of British Columbia*. Mitchell. Colored.
56. 1865. *Oregon and Washington; Minnesota*. Johnson and Ward. Shows present boundaries. Colored.

MISCELLANEOUS EPISODES AFFECTING PACIFIC NORTHWEST HISTORICAL CARTOGRAPHY

- 1492 Christopher Columbus discovered America.
- 1507 Famous German geographer of Saint-Die, Martin Waldseemüller, gave the new land the name America, erroneously believing that it was discovered by Amerigo Vespucci.
- 1513 Vasco Nuñez de Balboa discovered the Pacific Ocean, looking south as he crossed the Isthmus of Panama, and called it Mar del Sur, or South Sea. This name was applied on maps for many years to all except the southern part of the Pacific Ocean.
- 1520 Ferdinand Magellan entered the ocean through Magellan Strait, which he had discovered. Finding the weather good, he named the newly encountered ocean Pacific. This name, however, was long applied only to the southern part.
- 1534 Fortun Ximenez de Bertandoña discovered the southern coast of the Lower California Peninsula. This was then thought to be an island or a group of islands.
- 1539 Francisco de Ulloa sailed up the Gulf of California and concluded that Lower California is a peninsula.
- 1540 As a result of the expedition of Francisco Vásquez de Coronado to what is now part of the United States east of the Rocky Mountains, cartographers began to extend North America northwesterly, thus accommodating their ideas to the existence of the mythical seaport of Quivira.

1542 Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo sailed up the California coast. After Cabrillo's death, Bartolomé Ferrola succeeded him in command and may have reached the coast of Oregon.

1566 The first map to show the Strait of Anian between Asia and America was published by Bolognino Zaltieri, a member of the Venetian Giacomo Gastaldi school of cartographers. The idea of the strait arose from a misinterpretation of Marco Polo's account.

1579 Sir Francis Drake, on his trip around the world, sailed up the coast of America to somewhere in the neighborhood of Oregon. He called the general region Nova Albion, which name was long applied to our Pacific Northwest area.

1592 Juan de Fuca, a Greek pilot, was alleged to have discovered the strait named after him. He has advocates and defamers.

1603 Sebastian Vizcaino sailed up the west coast of America with two vessels. Martin de Aguilar may have reached the mouth of the Columbia River in one of them.

1625 In "Purchas His Pilgrimes" appeared a map by Henry Briggs (perhaps produced in 1622) showing California as an island. This popularized the idea and it often was so shown long after being proven otherwise.

1643 Commandeur Maerten Gerritsen Vries, sailing on the ship *Castricum* on a voyage to locate the fictitious islands of gold and silver, passed between two of the Kurile slands. The westerly one, he identified as an island but the other, which he called Company Land, was shown to extend indefinitely eastward. This, with the purported discovery of land in the middle of the North Pacific by João de Gama, was largely responsible for some of the most confusing cartography since the discovery of America. Involved, in addition to the name Company Land, were such names as Gama Land, Jesso, Esso, Yedso, etc.

Vitus Bering and Captain James Cook disposed of much of the confusion. Final clarification came when Jean François Galoup, Comte de Lapérouse sailed between Sakhalin and Hokkaido through the strait which now bears his name.

1705 Father Eusebio Francisco Kino made a map showing Lower California as a peninsula. This concept was eventually followed.

1708 An apocryphal story of an Admiral Bartholomew de Fonte passing through North America by ship in 1640 appeared. This account was espoused by Arthur Dobbs in his controversy with the Hudson's Bay Company regarding a Northwest Passage. The course of the voyage was shown on maps by Joseph Nicholas Delisle and Philippe Buache (younger brother and son-in-law, respectively, of the famous Guillaume Delisle). This story and that of Juan de Fuca resulted in the production of very peculiar imaginative maps of the Pacific Northwest.

1728 Vitus Bering, a Dane in Russian employ, sailed through the strait that now bears his name.

1741 Bering discovered Alaska from the west. This antedated other discoveries of the Pacific Northwest, except for the voyages of Drake and Ferrola. Neither of the latter made landings on the coast and probably did not reach the Washington coast.

1774 Juan Josef Pérez Hernández commanded the first Spanish expedition to the Northwest Coast.

1775 Juan Francisco de la Bodega y Quadra made his famous trip up into Southeast Alaska in the little schooner *Sonora*.

1778 Captain James Cook, on his third voyage to the Pacific, sailed to Nootka on Vancouver Island, around the Gulf of Alaska, into Bering Sea and through Bering Strait, determining that there was no Northwest Passage.

1786 Lapérouse led the first French explorations into Alaskan waters.

1790 Duque de Almodóvar published an account of the apocryphal voyage through North America in 1588 by one Lorenzo Ferrer Maldonado. This was shown on maps and probably was responsible for the expedition to the Northwest Coast of Alejandro Malaspina (after whom Alaska's largest glacier was named).

1792 Captain Robert Gray entered and named the Columbia River, an act of great importance to the United States in its claim to the Oregon Country.

1792 Captain George Vancouver, British Navy officer, reached the Northwest Coast. His mission was dual: to explore, and to receive from the Spaniards land that had been disputed between the two nations. He and Quadra became personal friends and named what is now Vancouver Island, "Quadra and Vancouver Island." This name appeared on a number of maps, but finally Quadra's name was dropped.

1799 Alexander Baranof, Governor of Russian America, moved the capitol from Kodiak Island to Old Sitka. After the Indians destroyed the original fort, the capitol was moved a few miles to the present site of Sitka, where it was when the United States purchased Alaska in 1867.

1803 The Louisiana Purchase was made. This added to the United States land west of the Mississippi and east of the Rocky Mountains, and to some extent strengthened the country's claims west of the mountains.

1805 The Lewis and Clark Expedition crossed the Rocky Mountains and reached the mouth of the Columbia River. This expedition enormously strengthened the United States' claim to the Pacific Northwest.

1811 Astoria was founded by John Jacob Astor.

1818 A treaty with Great Britain provided for ten years of "Joint Occupancy" of the Oregon Country.

- 1824 The United States' treaty with Russia generated interest in 54° 40' as the northern coastal boundary of the nation.
- 1827 "Joint Occupancy" was continued indefinitely by treaty.
- 1841 The United States Exploring Expedition visited Puget Sound under the command of Lieutenant Charles Wilkes.
- 1844 United States' claims to the Oregon Country injected into the presidential campaign, with the slogan of "Fifty-four forty or fight!"
- 1846 The treaty with Great Britain established the United States' boundary at 49° North, except that all of Vancouver Island was granted Great Britain.
- 1846 Oregon Territory created. It included what is now Washington, Idaho and the western portion of Montana and Wyoming.
- 1848 The land to the south of Oregon was acquired by the United States and known as the "Mexican Cession."
- 1850 The state of California and Utah Territory were formed from the Mexican Cession.
- 1853 The northern part of Oregon Territory became Washington Territory.
- 1854 Nebraska Territory established, superceding Missouri Territory which, in turn, had superceded Indian Territory.
- 1859 The so-called "Pig War" began on San Juan Island.
- 1859 Oregon became a state.
- 1861 The area to the east became Dakota Territory, superceding Nebraska Territory.
- 1863 The Territory of Idaho was created and Washington Territory reduced to its present dimension.
- 1867 Alaska was purchased by the United States from Russia.
- 1872 The German Emperor, as an arbitrator, awarded San Juan Islands to the United States.
- 1889 Washington became a state.

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