



Peresaro world map

Description: The world map measuring 114 x 197 cm and is drawn on a strip of parchment of 122 x 206 cm. It is neither dated nor signed. His style is similar to that of another world map, designed by Vesconte Maggiolo of Genoa. Legends are in Latin, and especially in Portuguese.

The coasts of South America are represented in significantly greater length than the previous maps. In particular, there is the Río de la Plata to the south latitude of Africa, and the coast continues over a dozen additional degrees. If the map has been designed around 1505, this supports the thesis that Amerigo Vespucci explored first the coast of South America to 50 degrees south, before Juan Díaz de Solís. The *MUNDUS nouus* mention is given to the inland. This term was used for the first time in 1504, in a letter attributed to Vespucci eponymous but that could have been written by another. The world map of Ruysch (#313) is the only other known map of this time to use it.

The west coast of America is not represented, nor the Chinese coast, which allows Maggiolo to equivocate as to whether America is merged with Asia, as is the case in the world map or Ruysch or Contarini (#308). The absence of the edge of the map can be deliberate, or may be the consequence of the loss of a portion thereof.

The islands Caribbean resemble the map of Juan de la Cosa (#305); in particular, we find the "hook" to the southwest of Cuba.

The North America is represented in three separate parts, which are probably the Greenland, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia.

The completion date of the card is not known with certainty. RA Skelton speculates 1508-1510, Frederick Pohl believes in 1505-1508, Levillier is convinced it is older than the world map of Ruysch (1508), others have suggested dates between 1504 and 1508.

According to Edward L. Stevenson, this map has so many similarities with the notes of Amerigo Vespucci that can be considered very close to Padron he had been instructed to carry out in 1508, now lost.

The world map was presented at the Biblioteca Olivierani by Marchese Ciro Antaldi Santinelli in 1904.

References:

Frederick J. Pohl, *The Pesaro Map, 1505 Imago Mundi, Volume 7*, 1950, pages 82-83 read online (JSTOR)

Edward L. Stevenson, *The Geographical Activities of the Casa de la Contratacion, Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 17: 2, June 1927, pages 39-59 read online (JSTOR)

Margaret S. and A. Dilke Brancati, *The New World in the Pesaro Map, Imago Mundi*, volume 31, 1979, pages 78-83 read online (JSTOR)