SIX
EARLY PRINTED MAPS

SELECTED FROM THOSE EXHIBITED AT THE
BRITISH MUSEUM ON THE OCCASION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL CONGRESS
1928

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LONDON
1928

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1. 'Das ist der Rom-Weg von meylen zu meylen mit puncten verzeychnet von eyner stat zu der andern durch deutzsche lantt.' [By Erhard Etzlaub. Nuremberg, c. 1492.] *Maps C. 2. a. 7.*

   A map of Central Europe, showing the chief roads to Rome, and probably the earliest printed map on which roads are marked. It extends from southern Denmark to central Italy (the north being at the bottom of the map) and from Paris to Cracow. The name of Nuremberg, the place of publication, is shown in the centre of the map in type larger than that used throughout. Three routes across the Alps are shown: the Semmering, the Brenner, and the Splügen.

2. 'Britanniæ insulæ quæ nunc Angliæ et Scotiæ regna continet cum Hibernia adiacente nova descriptio.' [By George Lily?] Romae, 1546. *K. 5. 1.*

   This is believed to be the first printed map of the British Isles apart from those in Ptolemy's Atlas. George Lily, whose probable authorship of the map is suggested by the initials G. L. A. (i.e. Georgius Lilius Anglus) which appear in the bottom left-hand corner of the large cartouche, was a son of William Lily the grammarian and chaplain to Cardinal Pole.

3. 'Nova orbis terrarum descriptio optiẽ proiecta ... per Ioannem Blagravum ... B. Wright ... cælator.' [London.] 1596. *Harl. MSS. 5935 (15).*

   A curious and little-known map of the World, noteworthy on account of its unusual projection which was devised by John Blagrave, an Oxford mathematician. The map is referred to on the title-page of Blagrave's 'Astrolabium Uranicum Generale', but there is no evidence that it ever appeared as part of the book. The engraving is the work of Benjamin Wright, one of the best-known early English map-engravers.

4. 'Nova Francia.' [By Gabriel Tatton. Engraved by Benjamin Wright. London, c. 1610.] *Maps C. 2. a. 3.*

   A rare map showing Canada, Labrador, Greenland, and the western coasts of Europe. It is one of a set of three maps drawn by Gabriel Tatton and engraved by Benjamin Wright between 1600 and 1616, and is a fine specimen of Wright's work.

5. 'A Description of East India conteyninge th' Empire of the Great Mogoll . . . William Baffin deliniauit . . . Renold Elstrack sculp.' T. Sterne: London, 1619. *K.* 115. 22.

The earliest English map of the Mogul territories. Its draughtsman was William Baffin, the navigator, who was master's mate on the ship 'Anne' on which Sir Thomas Roe returned to England after his embassy to the Great Mogul. The map, based on information supplied by Roe to Baffin, marks a great advance in the development of the early cartography of India.

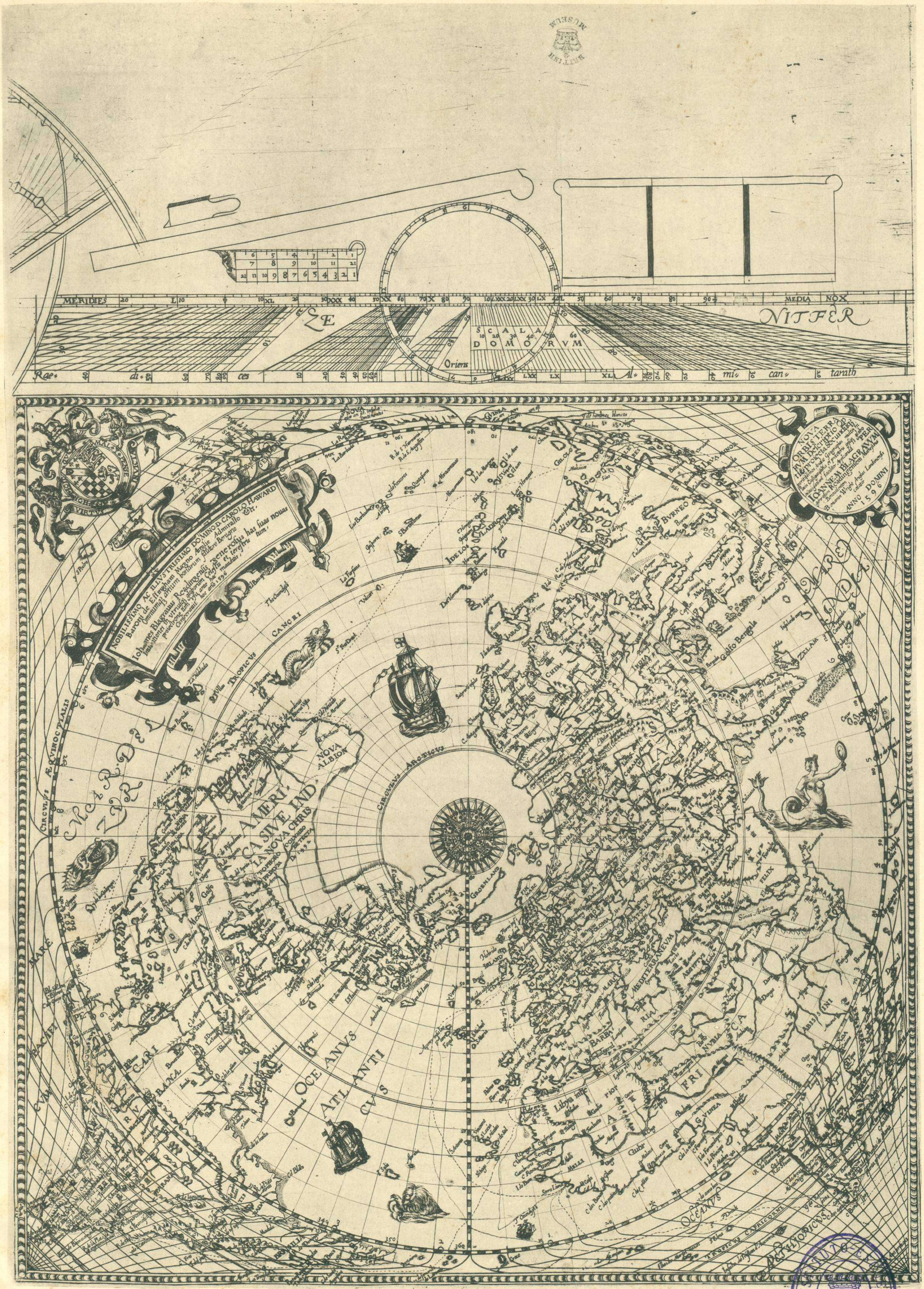
6. 'Novi Belgii novæque Angliæ nec non partis Virginiæ tabula multis in locis emendata a N. J. Visschero.' [Amsterdam, c. 1655.] 73945 (1).

A map of the early European settlements in North America, extending from Maine to Virginia. The inset presents one of the earliest views of New York ('Nieuw Amsterdam') as it existed about 1651.

1. CENTRAL EUROPE, SHOWING THE CHIEF ROADS TO ROME (c. 1492)

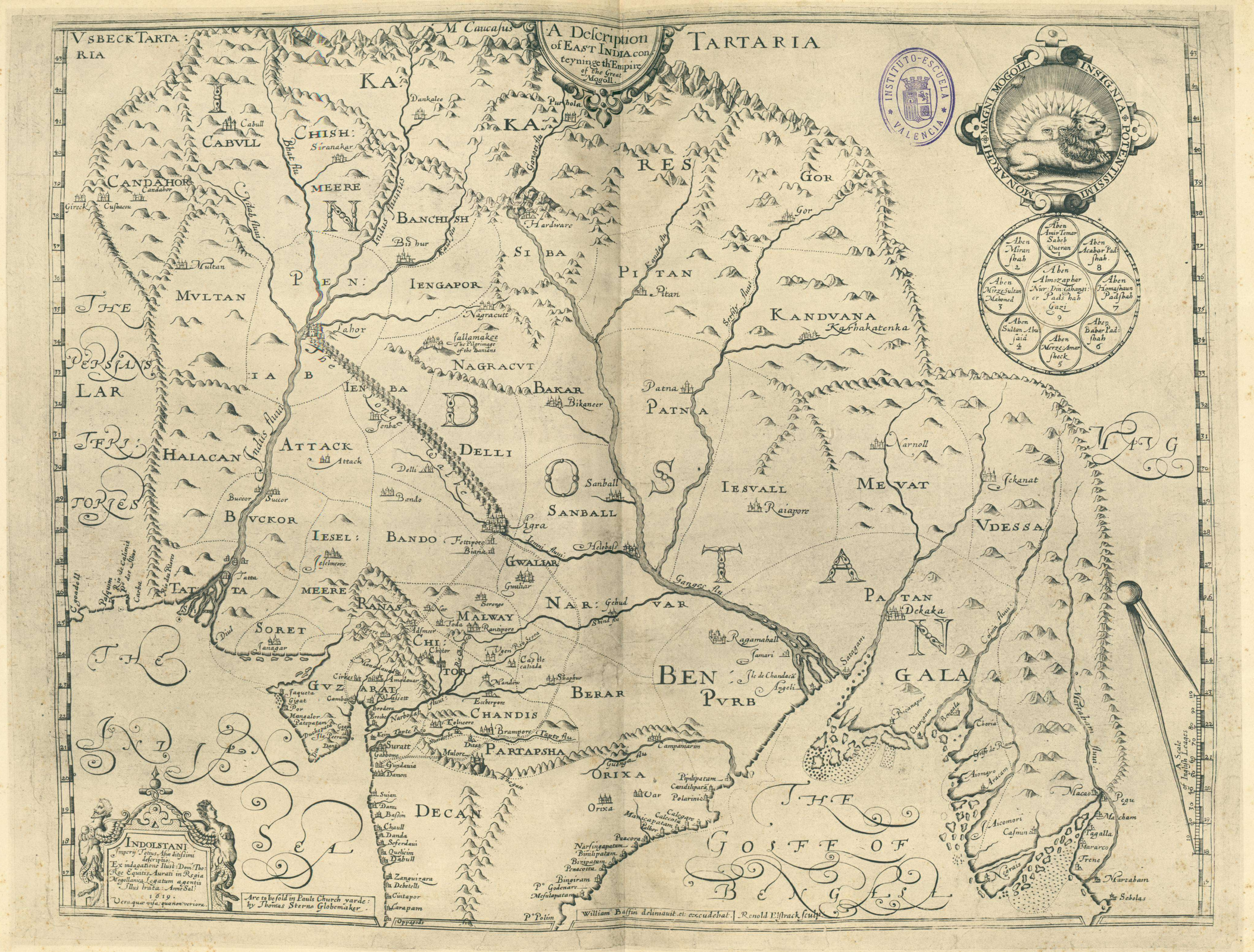
(*The North is at the bottom of the Map*)

2. BRITISH ISLES, 1546



3. THE WORLD, 1596

4. PARTS OF CANADA, LABRADOR, GREENLAND, ETC. (c. 1610)



5. THE EMPIRE OF THE GREAT MOGUL, 1619

6. PART OF THE EASTERN STATES OF AMERICA, WITH INSET VIEW OF NEW YORK (c. 1655)

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