

# South America:

## A Map Mystery

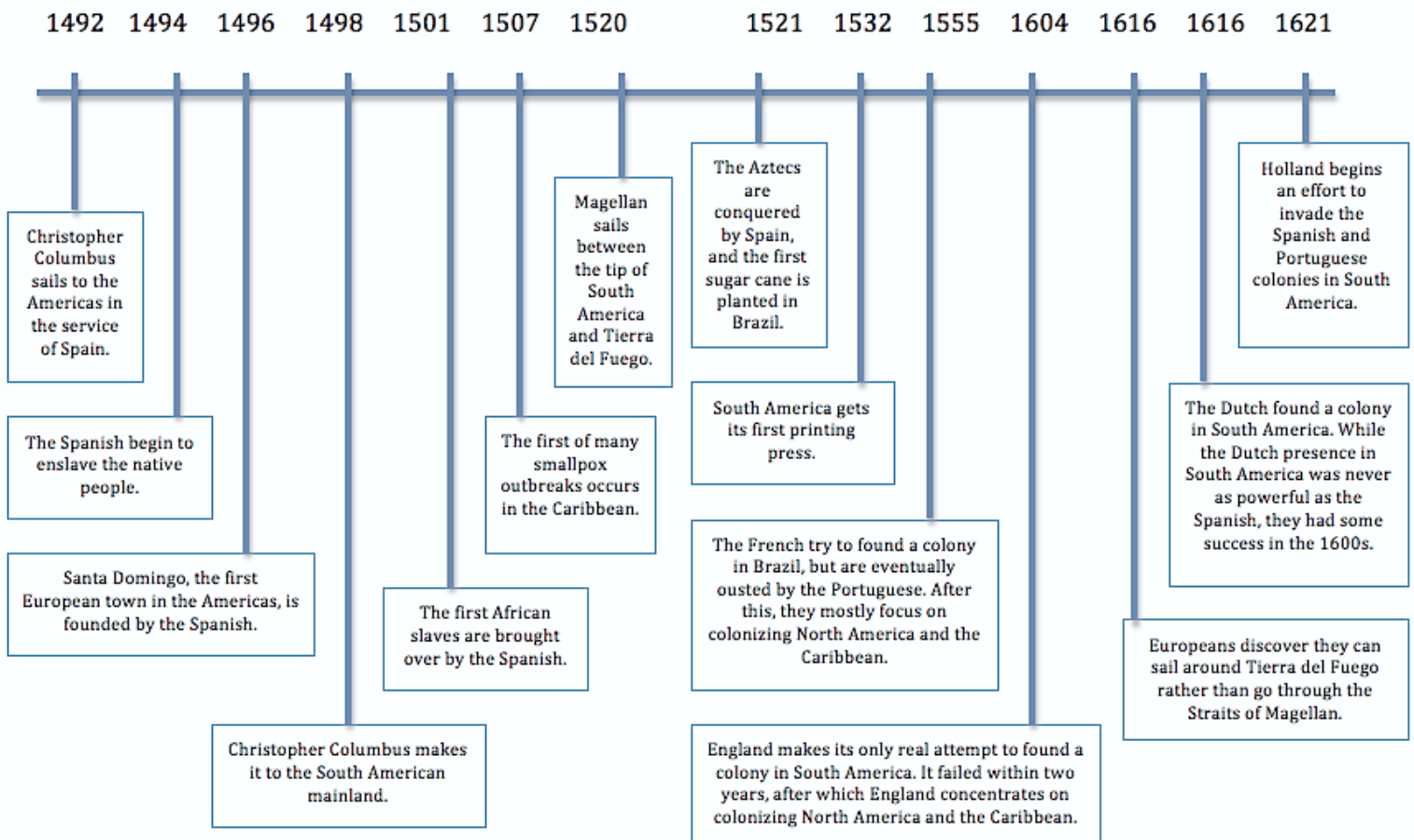


Completed By: \_\_\_\_\_



Historians who study old maps have to be detectives. Even though the people of the past can't directly tell us what they thought or believed, they left clues in the things they made. This book contains nine old maps of South America. Examine them to discover what people in history knew and thought about South America.

## European Colonization of South America Timeline



## Instructions

- ❖ Take time to look through the maps on pages 8 -16 as well as the timeline on page 1.
- ❖ Complete the Word Review section below.
- ❖ In Part One and Part Two, use the provided hints to identify when and where each map was made. Write the map number next to each hint.
- ❖ Answer the Reflection Questions in both Part One and Part Two.
- ❖ Label the maps on pages 8-16 with the dates they were made and the countries they are from.
- ❖ Compare and contrast the maps as directed in Part Three.

### Word Review:

Colonialism was a big part of South American history.

How would you define “**Colonialism**” in your own words?

When nations send colonies/settlements to other lands to harvest the resources and make a claim for “ownership”

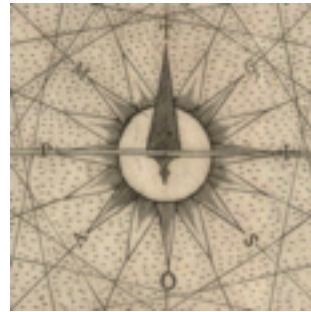
## Part One: WHERE were the maps made?

1. The **Spanish** map includes the coat of arms for Charles I of Spain:



Map [6](#)

2. The **Italian** maps have this kind of compass rose:



Map [1](#)

Map [3](#)

3. The **English** maps are written in English.

Map [4](#)

Map [5](#)

4. The **Dutch** maps include many pictures of people:



Map [7](#)

Map [8](#)

5. The **French** maps are simple and easy to understand.



Map [2](#)

Map [9](#)

## Reflection Questions

What do all of the countries have in common? [They are all European](#)

Why were these maps made in these countries and not in Japan or Brazil?

[There was not a major printing industry outside of Europe at this time. While non-Europeans certainly made maps, there would have only been a single copy of each. Europeans printed hundreds or thousands copies of a maps at a time, and so the odds of their maps surviving for the past 400 years were much greater than for the maps produced in other countries.](#)

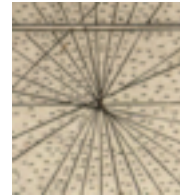
## Part Two: WHEN were the maps made?

1. The earliest map (1556) was made when it was not unusual to show the orientation of the map with Wind Heads rather than a compass rose:



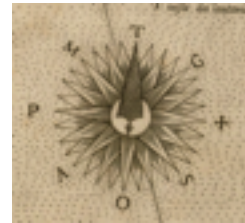
Map 6

2. The next map (1565) includes extra lines (called rhumb lines) to help seafarers cross the Atlantic:



Map 3

3. The next map (1566) was made when Italian sailors were still using this kind of compass rose:



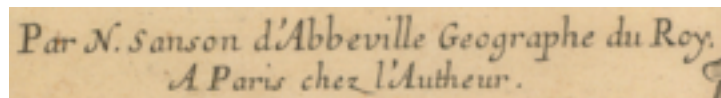
Map 1

4. When the next map (1593) was made, people still believed in sea monsters:



Map 8

5. The next map (1650) was created by the Royal Geographer of France:



Map 9

6. The next map (1658) includes images of South American animals that Europeans found to be odd, yet interesting:



Map 7



7. The next map (1701) was dedicated to a young duke named William, which is why it includes the English Coat of Arms:



Map 5

8. The next map (1721) was made after people learned that Tierra del Fuego was just a small Island rather than part of a huge southern continent, as previously thought:



Map 2

9. The last map (1848) was made after South American cities, like Rio Janeiro, had grown large.



Map 4

### Reflection Questions

Which countries made the earliest maps of South America (before 1600)? Spain, Italy, and Holland

Why do you think the earliest map was made by Spain? They were the first to actively colonize the region

Which countries made the later maps of South America (after 1700)? England and France

Why might the countries that published the later maps not care to make many maps of South America until a few hundred years after its “discovery”?

Their colonizing efforts in the New World centered more on the Caribbean and North America, so there was not as much demand for maps of South America.

### Part Three: COMPARE and CONTRAST

#### 1. Examine the map from 1566 and the map from 1848.

How had the shape of South America (according to mapmakers) changed over time?

Had gotten longer and thinner

Which coast (East or West) of the 1566 map best matches the same coast on the 1848 map?

East coast

Why do you think one coast was drawn more accurately in 1566 than the other coast?

They were more familiar with the East coast, because that's where their colonies were

#### 2. Examine the two Italian maps.

If you had to navigate a ship using one of the two maps, which would you choose?

Map 3

Why would it be easier to navigate with the map you chose?

The rhumb lines would make it easier to navigate with

#### 3. Examine the Dutch map from 1593 and the English map from 1848.

What are most of the South Americans doing on 1593 map?

Fighting

What are most of the South Americans doing on the 1848 map?

Working

How had peoples' idea of South Americans changed since 1593?

The no longer viewed them as a violent threat.



**4. Examine the 1593 map and the 1701 map.**

How is Tierra del Fuego shown in the 1593 map?

As the northern part of a large continent.

How is Tierra del Fuego shown in the 1701 map?

A small island

What had happened during the 1600s that changed the way people thought of Tierra del Fuego?

Cape Horn was rounded and Europeans discovered that Tierra del Fuego was a small island.

**5. Examine each map made before 1600. Then examine the maps made after 1600.**

What do all of the maps made BEFORE 1600 include that all of the maps made AFTER 1600 exclude?

The Caribbean

Why do you think this part of the world was included in “South America” before 1600 and not after?

Because the continents had not yet been defined as “North America” and “South America.” When they were defined, the Caribbean was not include in South America

**6. Examine the maps from each country.**

What two countries produced maps of South America that included boundaries between countries?

England and France

Why do you think the maps from other countries don’t include borders?

They are all earlier maps, made before the borders were determined

## Map 1

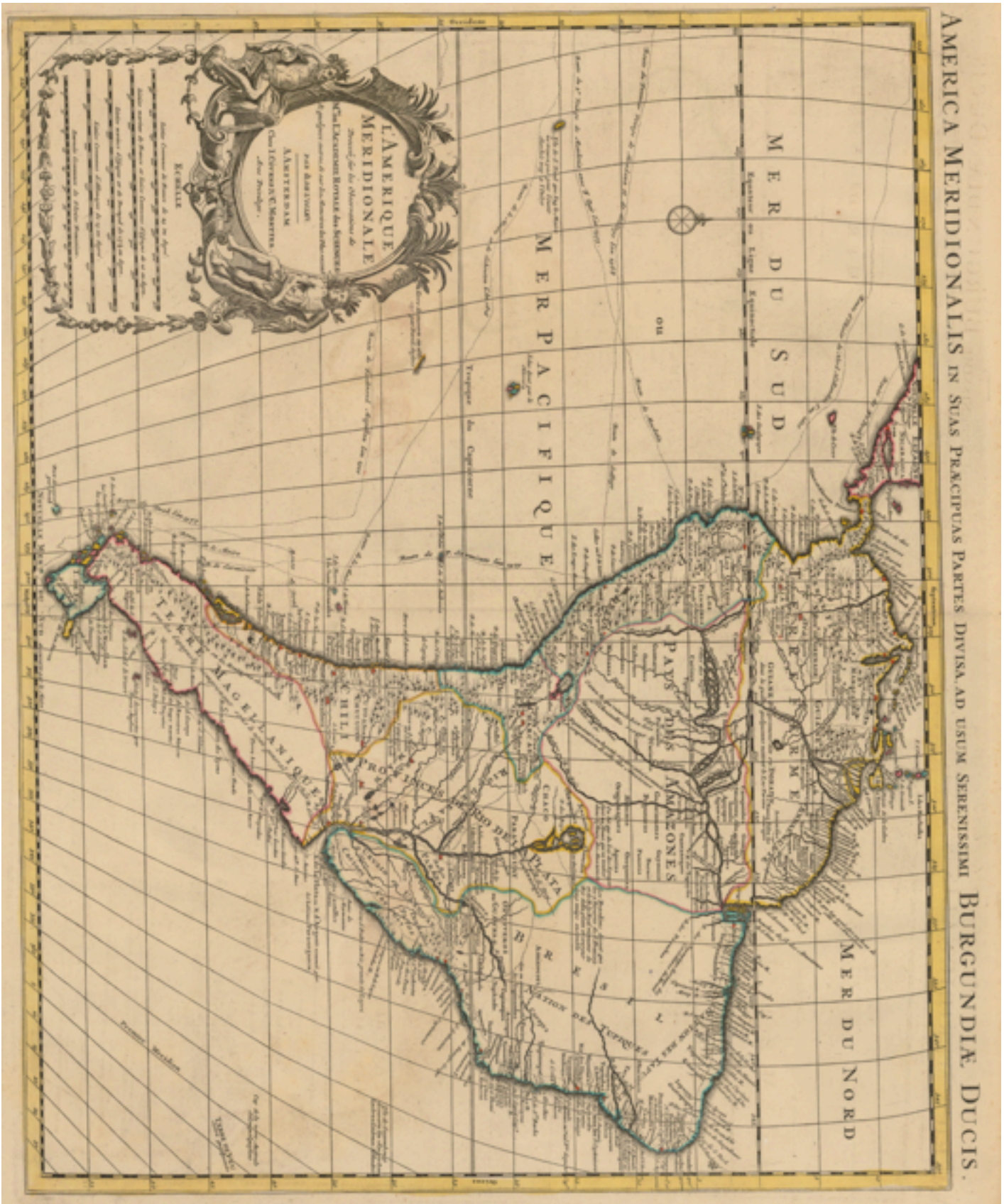


When: 1566

Where: Italy



## Map 2



When: 1721

Where: France



# Map 3



When: 1565

Where: Italy



# Map 4



When: 1848

Where: England



# Map 5



When: 1701

Where: England



## Map 6



When: 1556

Where: Spain



## Map 7



When: 1658

Where: Holland



# Map 8



When: 1593

Where: Dutch



# Map 9



When: 1650

Where: France

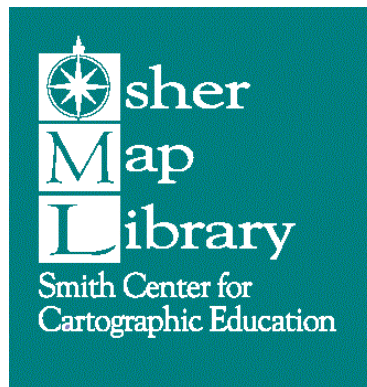
All maps used can be accessed online at:

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Type the numbers below into the “OML Accession Id” field or the names below into the “Authority” field.

***Images Used:***

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Map 1:	Paulo di Forlani [OS-1566-1]
Map 2:	Guillaume L’Isle [SM-1721-11]
Map 3:	Fernando Bertelli [SM-1565-5]
Map 4:	J. Tallis & Co. [ST-1848-15]
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