

TITLE: *The Borgia/ Velletri World Map*

DATE: 1410 - 1458

AUTHOR: *unknown*

DESCRIPTION: Of all the maps in my collection and in these four books of monographs, this map is my overall favorite! The famous *Borgia* world map, extant in the Biblioteca Vaticana, is engraved on two copper plates riveted together to form a circle 63 cm (24 inches) in diameter, with color rubbed in the engraved channels (*nielli*). The plates are drilled with 37 round holes distributed irregularly over the parts of the map that represent the land. Roberto Almagia suggested that it is possible that the 37 holes have been drilled in the plates to fix small medallions of cities or sovereigns. Around the edge of the map, in the ocean, numbers in small Roman numerals divide the circumference into 24 numbered segments, on the right (going from top to bottom) from I to XII, and on the left (going from bottom to top) from I to XII. The parts, which in the impression appear black, were in the original filled up with a melted substance, for the most part brown, but where ship's sails are represented, white, and for flames, red.

Nothing is known about its origin except that it was purchased in Portugal by Cardinal Stefano Borgia in 1794. Experts say it dates from the mid-15th century – but its creator was blithely unaware of many of the discoveries made at that time. There is, for instance, no trace of the Canary Islands, which had been colonized in 1402. Like other medieval cartographic specimens, the *Borgia* map has a limited geographical interest; and like other maps from this era, it is a treasure trove of information regarding the historical significance of all areas of the known world.

This map was discovered in an antique shop and bought by Cardinal Borgia for his museum in Velletri. It seems to have been originally designed as a wall decoration. The orientation of this disc-shaped work is with South at the top. Due to its apparent decorative function, it did not necessarily have to conform to the same standards expected of other maps of its day, i.e., *portolan* charts, or the *Catalan-Estense mappaemundi* (#246). According to map scholars such as Leo Bagrow, the *Borgia* map was modeled on some Catalan map, as a comparison with the *Catalan-Estense* map clearly shows. For others, because of its rather unusual orientation and its ornamentation, the *Borgia* map is not unlike a crude precursor to the more famous *Fra Mauro mappamundi* of 1459 (#249). But, again, because of its purported decorative purpose, the result is a very stylized representation in the contours of the major landmasses. This characteristic can be seen particularly in the mountains that are used to symbolize the coastline in a few places (i.e., Northern Asia, Southern Africa). The entire southern part of Africa, which would have formed an ugly white excrescence, is omitted; and coastal outlines are either badly distorted for the period (especially well known areas such as Spain and Italy), or simply generalized.

It differs from the Ptolemaic picture of the world in that (1) Africa is not joined with Asia, and that the Indian Ocean is thus an open and not an inland sea; (2) through the delineation of Scandinavia, which is here represented as a peninsula and not an island; and (3) through the inscriptions, which only occasionally agree with Ptolemy's legends, and besides are in an entirely more descriptive style than Ptolemy's *Geography*. No inscription in the map indicates any knowledge of the Portuguese discoveries on the African coast, or of the Scandinavian discovery of Greenland. With regard to the designs and legends occurring on the map, one must look no further than Arnold Hermann Heeren's 1808

monograph and Santarem's work. The lettering suggests that it began life in southern Germany.

According to the Swedish scholar A.E. Nordenskiöld, the *Borgia* map was probably composed for a secondary purpose to illustrate some instruction in the elements of the globe, or more correctly, in the geography, the natural conditions and ethnography of the earth disc. Even more noteworthy, and in this respect it is almost unique among medieval maps, is the fact that it seems to have been drawn, not by some scholar through the study of older authorities, more or less classical, but by a much traveled and observant man, recording what he had seen and heard. It is this circumstance which bestows upon this, at first sight, a coarse and imperfect work, an entirely distinct significance for study of the development of geography and cartography during the period immediately preceding the great wave of geographical discovery.



It seeks to give the idea not only of the geography of the different countries, but also of their ethnography, natural conditions and religion, and of the most momentous periods of their history. The *Borgia* map forms a singularly telling and valuable picture of the conception, in that respect, of the educated classes of Europe at the end of the 14th century and at the beginning of the 15th.

The map is oriented South at the top, and its center is near the mouths of the Danube. The orientation of the *mappamundi* towards the South is perhaps the first aspect that surprises and intrigues the modern spectator who is used to North-oriented maps, and who is therefore disoriented by the effort required to identify landmasses which not only have 500-year-old outlines, but which are also turned “upside down,” thus losing their familiar shapes. Most of the diagrammatic manuscript *mappaemundi* of the period 1150-1500 are oriented to the East. But among the maps contemporary with that of the *Borgia mappaemundi* is the 1448 world map of Andreas Walsperger (#245), the 1459 Fra Mauro world map (#249), and the *Zeitz mappaemundi* (#251) of the last quarter of that century are all oriented to the South. Thus it is not surprising that, around the mid-15th century, a *mappamundi* was oriented to the South. Some explanations also include the influence of all of the contemporary Islamic cartography, the cosmographical concepts of Aristotle, and, of course, the maritime commercial focus of the Indian Ocean and thus towards the South.

One of the major attractions of the map are the myriad of miniature drawings reminiscent of much earlier maps such as the *Hereford* and *Ebstorf mappaemundi* (#224, #226), as well as the 1448 world map by Andreas Waslperger (#245) and the *Catalan Atlas of 1375* (#235). The unknown author could not resist the temptation to tickle the palate of his readers, for he fills the empty, unexplored continental spaces with all manner of legendary and traditional characters. Zoologically, there are fauna in all three of Wilma George’s ‘regions’: *Ethiopian, Oriental, and Palearctic* displayed on the *Borgia* map. In this respect Ms George states that it “formalized exuberance resembling the 12th century maps by populating the Oriental region with camels, jackals or hyenas, an elephant, a panther, lion, dragon and, marginally, in the region, some reptiles.” An elk or moose appears in Europe from behind some trees, with the tines on the opposing and upper edges of its antlers. Also there is a polar bear emerging from an igloo in Norway, domesticated reindeer, foxes and wolves to be found.



There are some 20 vessels in the sea all around the periphery of the landmass that fills the center of the map. The most prominent vessels are at the bottom. The various craft are almost all, but not exclusively, single-masted and come in different types. There are generally two variants of the single-masted sailing ship, one being long with a high built-up platform, or after-castle, at the stern and a lower built-up platform at the bow, or fore-castle, a top or platform high up on the main mast, and a prominent and obvious sternpost rudder. It is probably a *hulk* (a river and coastal vessel with Celtic roots used in the estuaries of the Rhine and in the North Sea) and so closely related to the northern European *cog* (a flat-bottomed coastal vessel and a principle carrier of goods in northern Europe). Another variant is drawn up at bow and stern with a much more curved profile and almost double ended. There is also an open vessel with five rowers and a captain



placed in an enclosed area at the stern and that might have been intended to be a *galley* (a oared vessel used primarily in the Mediterranean). There is one single-masted sailing ship which is low and open with no castles and a rudder with a tiller that passes over the sternpost so it is more like a riverboat than a deep-sea sailing ship. One of the ships possibly has overlapping planking. The presence of such ships and in such variety as those on the *Borgia* map combined with the fact that variants of the *cog* design found their way onto other southern European maps in the 15th century strongly suggests that vessels from the North were well known in the Mediterranean and respected there for their sailing qualities and capacity. It also suggests once again that mapmakers wanted to include signs of novelty at sea.

In the Far East, within two square regions surrounded by mountains and oriental-looking towers or fortifications, are the captions: “*The province of Gog, in which, at the time of Artaxerxes, king of the Persians, the Jews were enclosed*” and “*Magog in these two [regions] are huge peoples, giants, full of all evil customs. They [are those who] Artaxerxes collected from all parts of Persia*”. The coasts of the Black and Mediterranean Seas follow ancient and medieval tradition; indeed, the map seems very medieval in form. Nonetheless, the shape of Africa and northern Asia suggests the influence of Catalan world maps, that is, the reception of new knowledge. The Portuguese ‘discoveries’ and the west coast of Africa (Cape Bojador, 1434), however, do not appear. The confusion of the monstrous and evil peoples *Gog* and *Magog* with Jews is typical for the time. It is worth noting that the exile of the Ten Lost Tribes is attributed (as in most medieval sources) not to Salmanassar (II Kings 17), but (incorrectly) to the Persian King Artaxerxes. This king, according to the apocryphal fourth book of Ezra or Esdras (7,7) *allowed* the Jews of his realm to emigrate to the Holy Land, but did not *collect* them. Biblical accuracy was not a priority in this type of text/map. This is the first map known to me to list the *iudei inclusi* - whom it implicitly identifies as *Gog* and *Magog*.

Culturally, towns are represented by castellated symbols, a variety of ship-types can be seen in the circumfluent ocean, the Magi of the Gospel story is included and even the Mongolian invasion is illustrated. Legends abound everywhere there is room or no graphic adornment. Surprisingly, unlike many other maps with this degree of illustration, little or no emphasis is given to Jerusalem, i.e. pictorially or through orientation, implying a more sectarian, vice religious, origin and purpose. All of the legends on the map are presented in translation at the end of this monograph.

In Europe, the Baltic Sea is represented as a narrow gulf with Riga and other cities. The Elbe, the Rhine and the Seine are figures. Italy, large in size, is almost shapeless. Ireland is missing. In Asia, east of the Black Sea (*Mare Caspium*), another lake in northern Asia escapes the *Tanays fluvius*. In the Far East, legends mention the Great Khan and Cathay and also *Cambalec*. *Paradise* is represented as an island of the Ganges. Several interesting legends and vignettes, including a fortified Tartar camp, evoke medieval traditions. In Africa, the Atlas Mountains are shown as on Catalan maps, with the indication of the classic passage to the country of *Negres*. The Nile is separate from 'West Nile', but it is the latter that



descends from the *Mountains of the Moon*. No indication of Portuguese trips. Southern Africa is said to be uninhabitable because of the excessive heat of the sun.

One way of looking at this cartographical jewel is as the first historical atlas. *"Here in Alunnia in 432"*, declares an inscription over part of France, *"Attila, King of the Huns, fought against the Romans and 180,000 were killed of both sides"*. In fact, Attila did not become king until 434, and the Battle of the Catalaunian Fields, to which this seems to refer, took place 17 years later. Still, it was a good try. Some of the other historical references are familiar (*"Battle of Cannae in which Hannibal slew 44,000 Romans and collected from the soldiers three bushels of golden rings"*), others less so. How many of us knew that *"Sinopa conquered many kingdoms and vanquished Hercula, Pampedo and Insipia"*?

Nearby is a depiction of what was intended to be an elephant, but turned out to look more like a pig with a vuvuzela on its snout (right). Elsewhere, there are more accurate renderings of camels, a gazelle, horses and a representation of the distant *Seres* collecting silk from the trees. *Paradise* is located on the coast somewhere beyond India and China. Between it and better-known parts of the world, there is an inscription that reads: *"From here to the ocean, a land uninhabitable on account of cannibalism"*, which was presumably inserted to deter what is nowadays termed a *"fact-finding mission"*.

As in all the best works of fantasy, the utterly surreal crops up next to the banal, giving a whiff of the Mad Hatter's tea party. Between references, recognizable today, to *Polonia* and *Bayoeria*, we get *"The stag, when pressed by dogs, drinks water which it vomits upon them boiling"*. In northern Russia are mountains *"in which griffins and tigers dwell"*. Somewhere around Gabon, we are informed that *"Here women hairy and very savage bring forth without males"*.

The map goes a long way towards explaining why there were no southern Germans among those who set off across the Atlantic or round the Cape of Good Hope. They would have been all too uneasily aware of what awaited them: in India *"huge men having horns four feet long"* and serpents *"of such magnitude that they can eat an ox whole"*. On the other hand, anyone with an adventurous spirit would surely be tempted by the prospect of finding, in Libya or thereabouts, the *"fountain of the sun, boiling at night and tepid in the morning"*. And who could resist the chance to look, near the headwaters of the Nile, for the Phoenix (below), which *"burns itself in an aromatic fire, and in three days is recreated from its ashes"*?



As you stare at the *Borgia/Velletri* map, it is not difficult to become intoxicated by dreams of a journey to *Ergauil* or *Fudaur* or the *State of Cambalec*, which appears to have a common frontier with *Paradise*. Perhaps the most enticing thought of all, though, is that you might one day reach that part of Siberia marked on the map as being *"The land formerly of illustrious women. In this lake..."* In this lake, what? The nameless author leaves your imagination to supply the rest.

The *Borgia/Velletri* map, with a special interest in Santiago, the tombs of the Christian Apostles Thomas and Matthew. In the case of Thomas, worshippers are especially represented in a form typical for this map. In the case of Matthew, the Armenian monks are left out, but the name of the lake is there.



Depicted is a branch of the Taurus Mountains in North Africa. Across these mountains are shown several Saracen pilgrims from the West who want to go to Mecca and venerate the tomb of Massumet, which is their law, or here many Saracen pilgrims have wandered to Mecca because of Mechametus was their prophet

Felicitas Schmieder theorizes that the *Borgia/Velletri* map also memorializes Sinai as the place where Moses received the now-Christian law from God. It also explains that this is the place the *fili Israel* passed when leaving Egypt. One can suppose that these from the point of view of Latin European Christians not Jewish but Christian memories of one of the most important pilgrimages in biblical history, the Exodus from Egypt, here counterweigh the pilgrimage of Muslim pilgrims from the West to Mecca (or perhaps the Muslims adopted a Christian memory). No medium shows this kind of symbolic struggle for predominance more clearly than maps and, more generally, the topographic, physical closeness, even the similarities, and thus also the problematic relationship, among the main important places of worship and pilgrimage of Christians and Muslims. On the level of reading the *sensus scripturae*, this is a first class example of an allegorical/typological message.

The *Borgia/Velletri* map clearly benefitted from Catalan traditions, but it puts the Muslims, the tombs of Apostles and other shrines, and the multiplicity of heathen religions in the world into yet another context. The map is very much a world chronicle in the sense that it describes world history as a sequence of world empires fighting each other. It is also quite close to Orosius' *Historia adversus paganos* and the idea of a constant struggle between Christians and pagans. Wherever Muslims are mentioned in Africa, be it as pilgrims or rulers, the mapmaker put a Christian counterpart on his map. In a similar way, heathens worshipping in Asia are balanced by Christians worshipping at the tombs of two apostles. This sequence is placed in the framework of the four empires of the biblical Daniel prophecy which are named on the map and thus, again, into an eschatological framework. Pilgrimage, worshipping, and shrines are thus signatures of a world that has yet to become fully Christian, where Christianity is memorialized in many places, where it struggles for survival or dominance in many places.

LOCATION: Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, Museum of Cardinal Stefano Borgia, Velletri
John Rylands Library, Manchester (copy)
Rome, Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, Borgiano XVI (galerie)

Size: 63 cm diameter

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Petrus Vesconte, c. 1321



Albertin de Virga, c. 1414



Andrea Bianco, 1436



Borgia, first half XV century



Andreas Walsperger, 1448



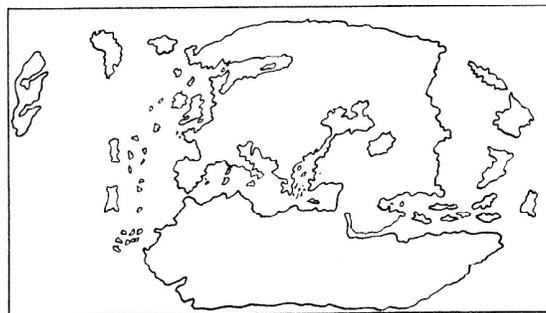
Catalan-Este, c. 1450



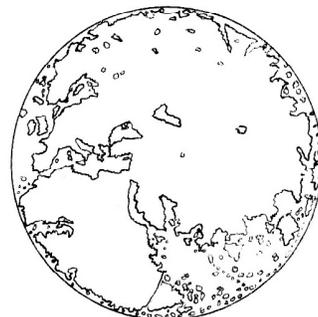
Giovanni Leardo, 1452-3



Genoese, 1457



Vinland Map, mid XV century (?)



Fra Mauro, 1457-9

*Comparison of the Borgia mappamundi with its contemporary European mappamundi
(all oriented/re-oriented with North at the top)*



The Borgia Map, detail: Persian Gulf Southern Africa (South at the top)



Africa, Italy and Spain (South at the top)



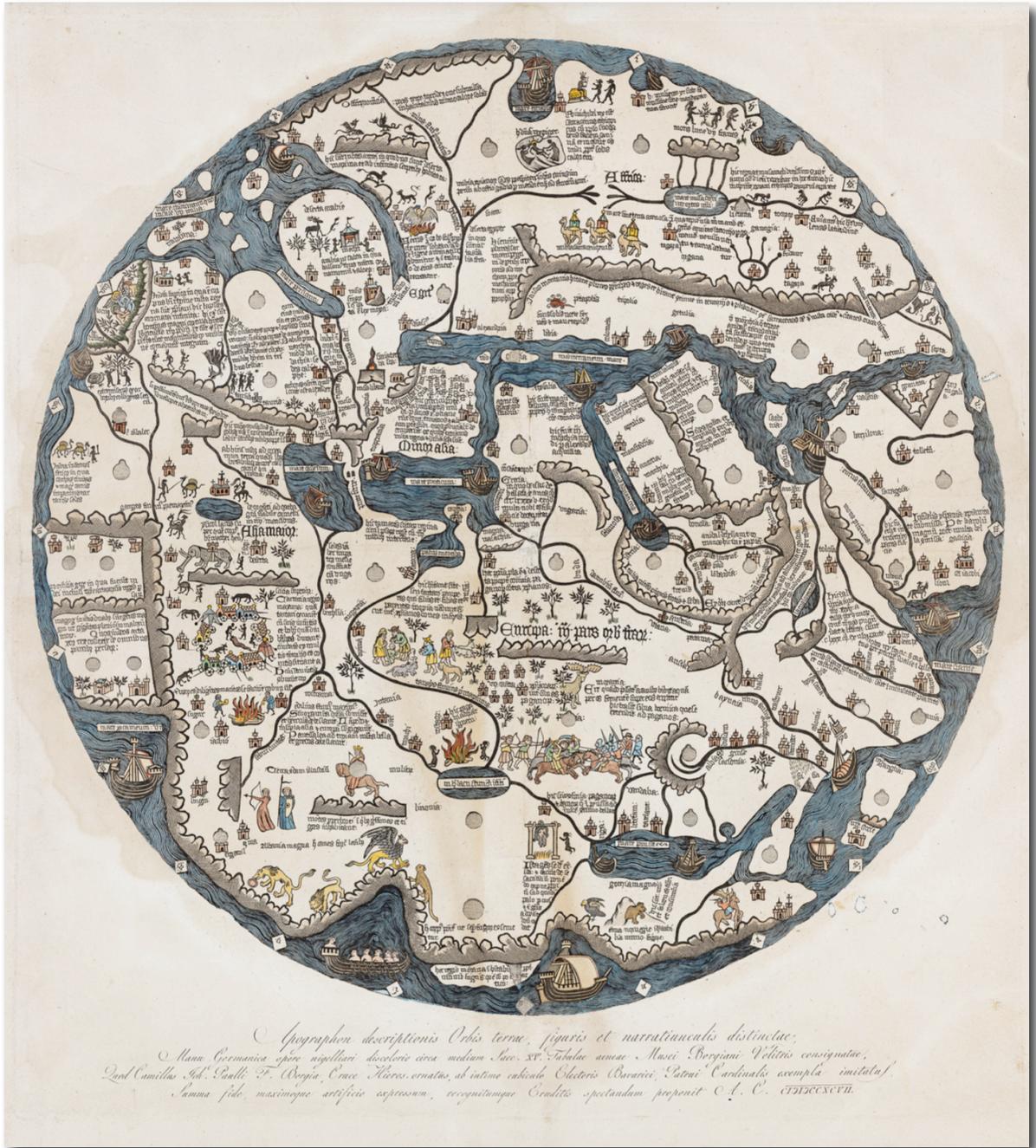
The Borgia Map, detail: Russia, Scandinavia (South at the top)



"This race considers itself sacred and they make of themselves a sacrifice placing a particular head on a pole by the hair and then they adore it on their knees until it falls"



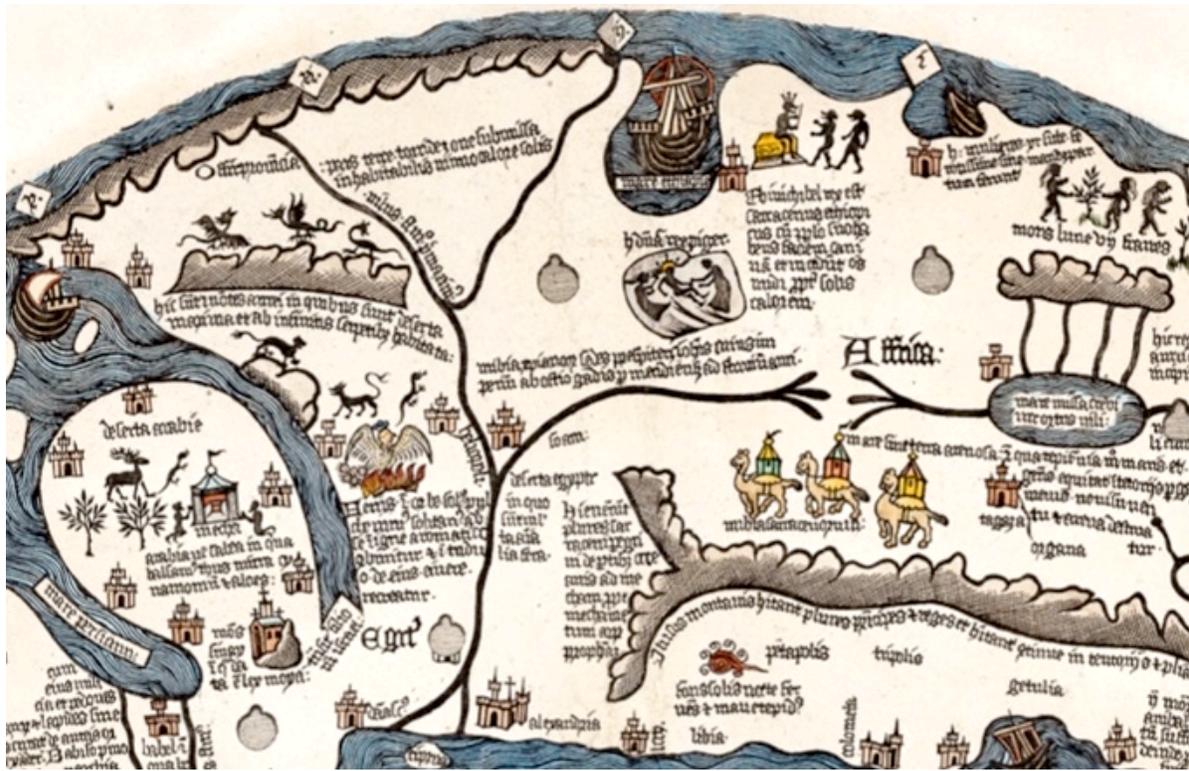
Borgia map detail: Asia (South at the top)



1797 print of the Borgia Map plates, private American collection









One of John Rylands' wife, Enriqueta's, early purchases was a printed map of the world, a cartographic mystery, which the Special Collections of the University of Manchester Library combined with the resources of the formerly independent John Rylands Library is currently investigating. The map is described in an article written in 1891 by the distinguished collector A.E. Nordenskiöld, with the following title: "An Account of a Copy from the 15th Century of a Map of the World Engraved on Metal, which is preserved in Cardinal Stephan Borgia's Museum at Velletri". Initial enquiries indicate that the map was acquired by Enriqueta around 1892, and an 1893 reprint of Nordenskiöld's article confirms that the map referred to throughout his article is now preserved in the Rylands Library.

Nordenskiöld came across the map, which was sold as an 'old German wood engraving', in Venice and was immediately intrigued. It appeared to be a printed copy of a 15th century metal map purchased by Cardinal Stefano Borgia in 1774. The metal map, however, is not a printing plate but a decorative engraving filled with *niello* and is thought

to date from around 1430. The Cardinal had printed copies made of his prized map. These would have been produced from a cast taken from the original. Only ten of these 18th century prints are thought to be extant. The printed map at Rylands bears strong similarities to them, however, Nordenskiöld argues vigorously that his printed map is much older, claiming that it may have been produced at the time of the original metal map during the early 15th century.

It is unclear how the Rylands' print was produced as neither the print nor the original metal map are reversed. The size of the printed map (63.4 cm in diameter) implies that several sheets of paper must have been pasted together to be large enough to take an impression. The removal of the Rylands' print from its current frame and comparison with the 18th century prints may be enough to solve the mystery. However, if this research proves inconclusive then dating the paper may provide a further option.

The Legends Appearing on the Borgia World Map:

The following translations/interpretations of the legends found on the Borgia map are taken from A.E. Nordenskiöld, *An Account of a copy from the 15th century of a map of the world engraved on metal, which is preserved in Cardinal Stephan Borgia's Museum at Velletri, Stockholm, 1891* (copied from "Ymer", 1891). These were doubtless restored in uncertain cases according to the interpretation of Viscomte de Santarem, who, where variations occur, is probably more correct than Arnold Herman Heeren. It seems as if a palaeographer had copied the original itself for Santarem, while Heeren only had the "Apographon" at his disposal. The following illustration shows the place-names and legends on the Borgia map using the numbering system below:

1. Europe: *The Third Part of the World.*
2. *This region is mountainous and uninhabitable on account of the excessive cold, because it is under the North Pole.*

Scandinavian Peninsula:

3. *The extreme part of Norway is uninhabitable on account of the excessive cold.*
4. *Here are bears, white falcons and such like*
5. Gothia Magna.

Britannia:

6. Kingdom of Scotland.
7. Kingdom of England.

Between the Don & the Rhine:

8. Prussian Sea
9. Riga.
10. *Here are the confines of the Pagans and Christians, who are continually fighting with one another in Prussia*
11. Litefani
12. Dresden
13. Vandalia
14. Gurse
15. Mangobres
16. Tarelant
17. Standar
18. Sacsonia
19. River Albia
20. Frisia.
21. The great river Don
22. *Seven Christian camps in pagan forests.*
23. Polonia.
24. Moravia
25. *The stag when pressed by dogs drinks water which it vomits upon them boiling.*
26. *Here cross the Bohemian Forests, which extend to the Pagans.*
27. Austa.
28. River Danube.
29. Bayveria
30. Buda [Budapest]
31. Patavia
32. Sclavonia
33. Austria
34. Ungaria [Hungary]
35. Viana. [Vienna]
36. *These provinces are flat, and deserted on account of the fighting of the Pagans against the Christians.*
37. Rusia.

38. *Here dwell the Scythians or poor Tartars who through want sell their children and parents in the markets just as cattle amongst Christians.*
39. Boxiana
40. Magna Valachia [Romania]
41. Capha

West of the Rhine:

42. River Rinus [Rhine]
43. Ays
44. Balsa
45. Brogundia.
46. Trasboure
47. Seina [Seine River]
48. Colonia
49. Roam.
50. *Paris sine . . . pare bonitate et dominio sedet in . . . sitate planito et castelleto. . . ania,*
51. Nantes
52. Orleans
53. Spanish Sea.
54. Angers
55. Bordeaux
56. *King John of France was taken prisoner here in battle by the Prince of Wales*
57. *Here in Alunnia in 432, Attila King of the Huns fought against the Romans and 180,000 were killed of both sides.*
58. Tolosa,
59. Lake Loxane
60. Avignon.
61. *Here the mountains divide Italy from Almanian and Gallia.*
62. *Crossing of Hannibal with 70 eliphants over the Rhone here in Ludanum,*

Pyrenean Peninsula:

63. The Pyrenees
64. Navara
65. *Here were slain the twelve Peers of France*
66. River Eurus
67. Sancti Jacobi
68. Lioni
69. Gallicia
70. Saragosa
71. *Infidel Spain subjected to Christianity by Charles Great, after much fighting.*
72. Tolletum
73. Granata
74. Barzilona
75. Portugalia
76. Valencia
77. *Italy, beautiful, fertile, brave and proud, where, futile, justice wants a single lord.*
78. Istria
79. Lombardia
80. Trevis
81. Paudus oriens in jmchro f.
82. Verona, Padua
83. Sal
84. *Hannibal defeated the Romans here in the region of Papia.*
85. Saluris
86. Ferrara
87. Bononia
88. Janua
89. *The apostolic and imperial seat triumphed for seven years*

90. Silo and Calabria
91. *Battle of Cannæ in which Hannibal slew 44,000 Romans, and collected from the soldiers three modia (bushels) of golden rings.*
92. Labor District.
93. *Here reposes the body of the blessed Niccolay de Baro.*
94. Apulia
95. Marchia
96. Manfredonia
97. Rimina
98. Ancona
99. *Here Hasdrubal was slain, with 43,000 Carthaginians*

Balkan Peninsula:

100. *Here the third monarchy of the world was acquired by Alexander.*
101. *Here was the great fight of Caesar and Pompey.*
102. *Here Rome lost the Commonwealth.*
103. Thesalia
104. *Athens the sole seat of learning of the world.*
105. Constantinople
106. *Greece in which Basac conquered the Christians 1395, of whom he beheaded many French nobles.*
107. Burgaria.
108. Racosa.

Mediterranean:

109. Sicilia
110. Mediterranean
111. Cyprus
112. Sardinia
113. Rodus
114. Corsica
115. Candia
116. Majorca
117. Sinus Adriaticus
118. ASIA MAJOR

North Russia:

119. *Here the body is put to be preserved by the cold.*
120. *This race considers itself sacred, and they make of themselves a sacrifice, placing a particular head on a pole by the hair, and then they adore it on their knees until it falls.*
121. *Albani Magna.*
122. *Here are dogs stronger than lions.*
123. Ergauil
124. Eзма.
125. *Hyperborean mountains, in which Griffins and tigers dwell.*
126. Livonia
127. *The land formerly of illustrious women. In this lake...*
128. The great river Edilius.[Volga]
129. *Sinopa conquered many kingdoms and vanquished Hercula. Pampedo and Insipia subjugated Asia and Europe*
130. *Pantisalea at Troy won many bathes and vanquished many Greeks.*
131. Rostrama

Between the Don and the Volga:

132. Rostaor
133. *Here the Pagans Worship fire.*
134. Torachi
135. Berchlina
136. Cifer.
137. Catania
138. Intania.

- 139. Palus Meotis
- 140. Enogaria
- 141. *The seat of Iambec, Emperor of Mesia, borders upon the Hungarians*
- 142. *Here Tamaris, queen of the Scythians, slew Cyrus with 300,000*
- 143. Mare Ponticum [Black Sea]
- 144. The Caspian Sea
- 145. The iron gates

East of the Volga:

- 146. Singin
- 147. Sugur
- 148. Iachion
- 149. Scitia Superior Sebur State* *The town is marked east, the name west of the Volga. It will be Sibir
- 150. *The great district of Tartary, which the Tartars traverse with their beasts of burden and cattle as long as there is grass.*
- 151. *They construct their towns of many tents and skin.*
- 152. *Here they burn the bodies with the implements belonging to them, and the faithful wives cause themselves to be burned along with their husbands.*
- 153. Civics sop.
- 154. Desert
- 155. *Lake Ysicol, upon which rested the body of the blessed Matthew.*
- 156. Organti.
- 157. *From Organti to Cathagium, camels go in four months.*
- 158. *From here to the ocean a land uninhabitable on account of cannibalism.*
- 159. *Mount Caucasus extends from here under many names to the East.*

Eastern Asia:

- 160. Mare Yrcaneium
- 161. *Magog, in these two are races big as giants, full of evil manner, Jews whom King Artaxor collected from all parts.*
- 162. *Province of Gog, in which the Jews were confined in the time of Artaxor, King of Persia.*
- 163. *The great river Ganges*
- 164. *Lower India in which is the City of Cathay, and the seat of the great Canis, Emperor of the Tartars*
- 165. *The State of Cambalec.*
- 166. *The distant Seres collecting silk from the trees.*

Southern Asia:

- 167. Paradise.
- 168. *Upper India, in which is the body of he blessed Thomas. Many Christian Kingdoms. Here are an infinite number of precious amber stones, Here also are huge men having horns four feet long, and there are serpents also of such magnitude, that they can eat an ox whole.*
- 169. *The river Indus, where there elephants, gold and precious stones innumerable, and no one wants for gold ornaments.*
- 170. *Here Alexander vanquished Darius with fifteen thousand men in three battles.*
- 171. *Babylon, the first monarchy of the world.*
- 172. *Baldachia, the seat the Caliph.*
- 173. *Trees preserved where Alexander and his soldiers were.*
- 174. Tarsis
- 175. Tauris
- 176. *Niniveh, three days' journey in length*
- 177. Persian Sea
- 178. Trapobana.
- 179. *The Indian Sea in which are seven thousand islands.*

Mesopotamia, Arabian and Syria:

- 180. *Babel, where seventy-two languages were invented*
- 181. Calder
- 182. Desert of Arabia
- 183. Mesopotamia.
- 184. Mecha.

185. The Euphrates & Tigris Rivers
186. *Arabia or Sabea, in which there is balsams frankincense, myrr, cinnamon, and aloes.*
187. *Mount Sinai, where was given the law of Moses.*
188. *Crossing of the Children of Israel*
189. Damascus.
190. Holy Land.
191. Syria.
192. Mount Libanus
193. ASIA MINOR
194. Capadocia
195. Trapesanda
196. *Mountain of Armenia There is Noah's Ark*
197. *Savastra, where Tanburlan vanquished Basac of 800,000 men slew 2,000*
198. Cilicia
199. Pamfilia
200. *Here the Greeks, with the help of a part of the world during ten years, fought against the Trojans and the other part of the world, by whom by... they destroyed, from which Trojans were made many kingdoms and dominions.*
201. AFRICA
202. Egypt
203. Alexandria
204. *Phoenix, the sole most beautiful and solitary bird in the world, burns itself in an aromatic fire, and in three days is recreated from its ashes.*
205. *The desert of Egypt, in which are many wild animals.*
206. *Many Saracen pilgrims come here to Mecca on account of their Prophet*

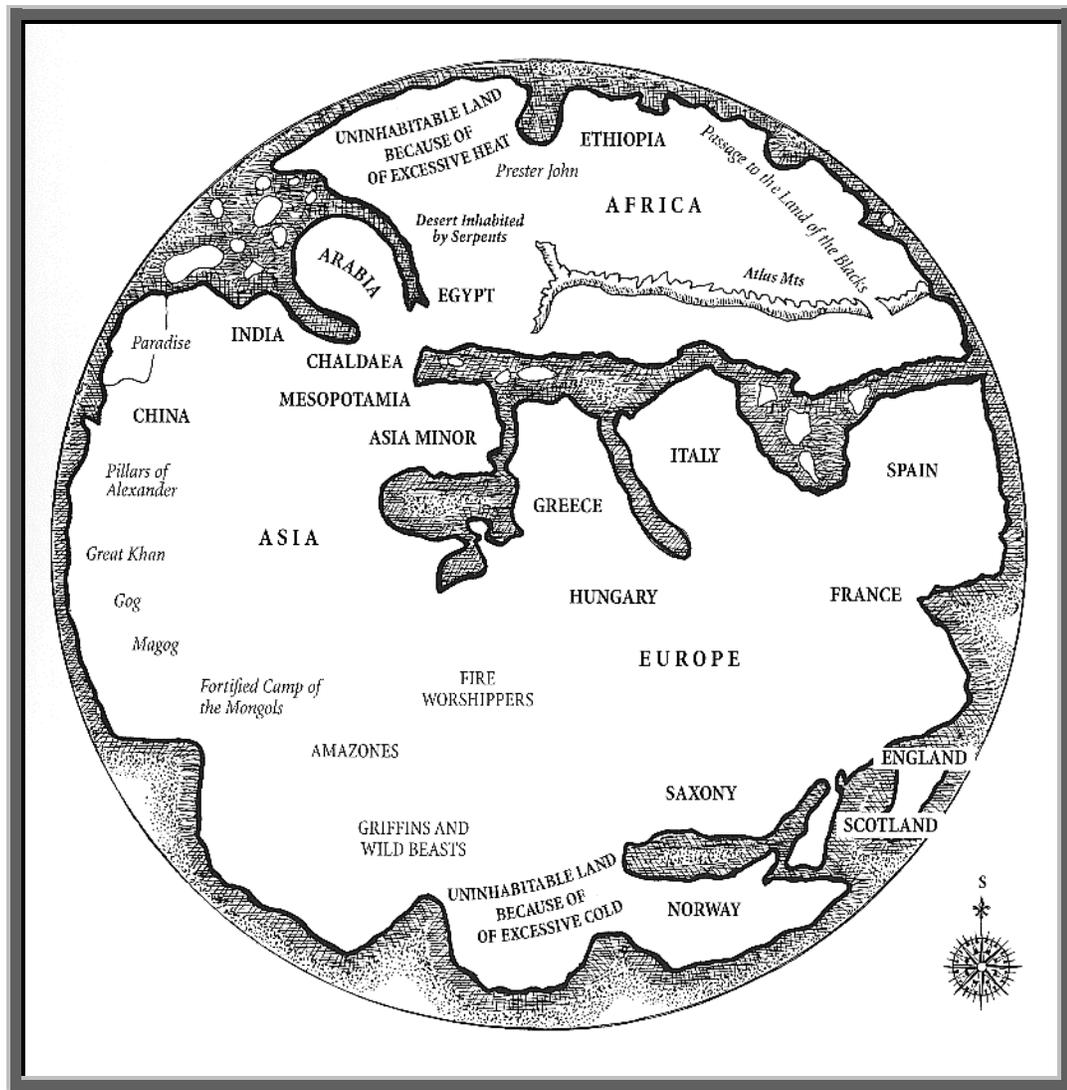
North of Mount Atlas:

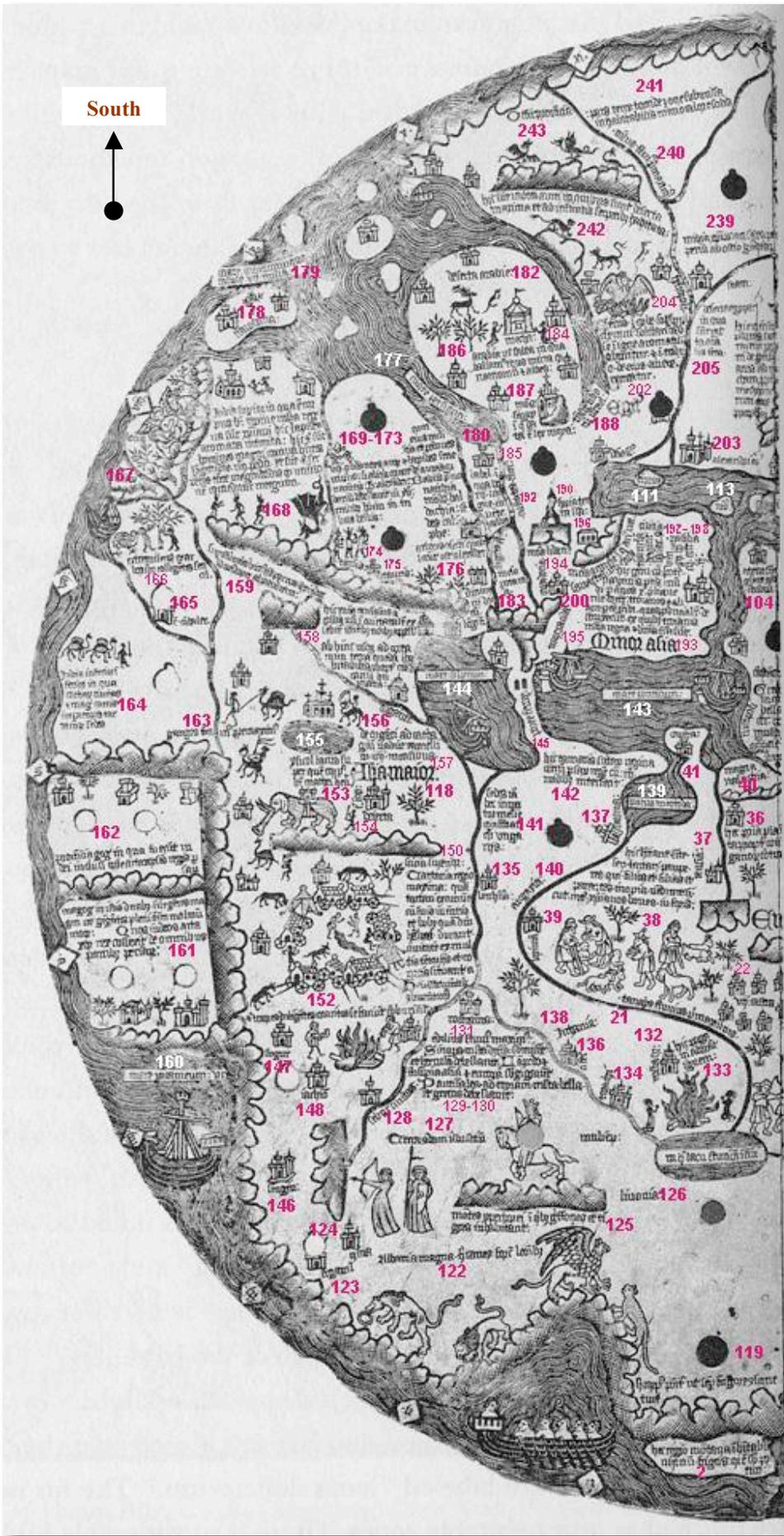
207. Lory
208. Lybia
209. *The fountain of the sun, boiling at night and tepid in the morning*
210. Petaolis
211. Tripolis
212. Colometa
213. Getulia.
214. *The second monarchy, which in the time of Hannibal greatly harassed the Romans, and was then totally destroyed by them under Scipio*
215. Tremili
216. Septa
217. *In these mountains are many princes and kings and they dwell continually in tents, and fight against the Sarcens. There are also many strongholds and states beyond.*
218. *Passage into the Land of the Negroes*

Middle and Southern Africa:

219. Hyfuret.
220. Tagaza
221. Teget
222. Fudaur
223. Tagost
224. *The golden river here eight leagues broad.*
225. Tocator
226. Ganugia.
227. *The sea, or land, of sand, in which the way is found as at sea, and the people travel under cover lest the wind and sand should destroy them on the way.*
228. Organa
229. Tagaza
230. Nubia or the Saracens.
231. *Mare Missa believed to be the Source of the Nile.*
232. *Here reigns Musameli, very rich on account of the gold which is found in this river.*

- 233. Here the Ethiopians Christians begin to appear very poor.
- 234. Mountains of the Moon, 7 brothers
- 235. Here women hairy and very savage bring forth without males
- 236. Abinichibel is king of the Ethiopian Saracens, with his people having the face of a dog, and they go naked on account of the heat of the sun.
- 237. Ethiopian Sea
- 238. Here rules King Piger
- 239. Nubia of the Chnstians, the seat of Prester John, whose empire extends from the mouth of the Gandis to the river of gold.
- 240. The great river Nile.
- 241. The part of the earth beneath the torrid zone uninhabitable on account of the excessive heat of the sun.
- 242. Here are golden mountains, in which are vast deserts inhabited by innumerable snakes.
- 243. The province of Offir.





North Russia:

- 119. Here the body is put to be preserved by the cold.
- 120. This race considers itself sacred, and they make of themselves a sacrifice, placing a particular head on a pole by the hair, and then they adore it on their knees until it falls.
- 121. Albani Magna.
- 122. Here are dogs stronger than lions.
- 123. Ergaul
- 124. Ezma.
- 125. Hyperborean mountains, in which Griffins and tigers dwell.
- 126. Livonia
- 127. The land formerly of illustrious women. In this lake...
- 128. The great river Edilius.[Volga]
- 129. Sinopa conquered many kingdoms and vanquished Hercula. Pampedo and Inspia subjugated Asia and Europe
- 130. Pantisalea at Troy won many baths and vanquished many Greeks.
- 131. Rostrama

Between the Don and the Volga:

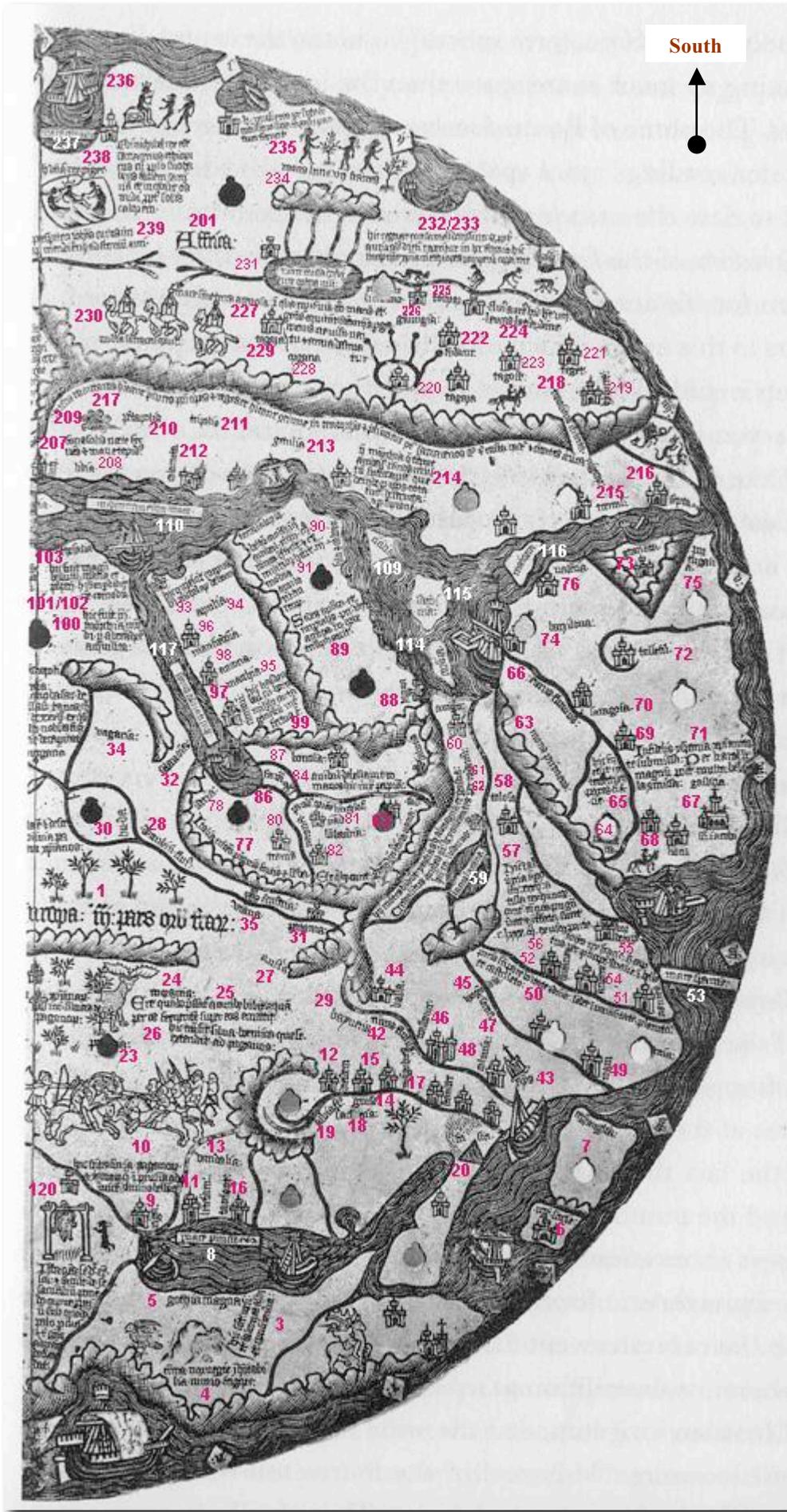
- 132. Rostaor
- 133. Here the Pagans Worship fire.
- 134. Torachi
- 135. Berchlina
- 136. Cifer.
- 137. Catania
- 138. Intania.
- 139. Palus Meotis
- 140. Enogaria
- 141. The seat of Iambec, Emperor of Mesia, borders upon the Hungarians
- 142. Here Tamaris, queen of the Scythians, slew Cyrus with 300,000
- 143. Mare Ponticum [Black Sea]
- 144. The Caspian Sea
- 145. The iron gates

West of the Volga:

- 146. Singin
- 147. Sugur
- 148. Iachion
- 149. Scitia Superior Sebur State* *The town is marked east, the name west of the Volga. It will be Sibir
- 150. The great district of Tartary, which the Tartars traverse with their beasts of burden and cattle as long as there is grass.
- 151. They construct their towns of many tents and skin.
- 152. Here they burn the bodies with the implements belonging to them, and the faithful wives cause themselves to be burned along with their husbands.
- 153. Civics sop.
- 154. Desert
- 155. Lake Ysicol, upon which rested the body of the blessed Matthew.
- 156. Organti.
- 157. From Organti to Cathagium, camels go in four months.
- 158. From here to the ocean a land uninhabitable on account of cannibalism.
- 159. Mount Caucasus extends from here under many names to the East.

Western Asia:

- 160. Mare Yrcaneium
- 161. *Maogor. in these two are races big*



1. Europe: *The Third Part of the World.*
2. *This region is mountainous and uninhabitable on account of the excessive cold, because it is under the North Pole.*
- Scandinavian Peninsula:**
3. *The extreme part of Norway is uninhabitable on account of the excessive cold.*
4. *Here are bears, white falcons and such like*
5. Gothia Magna.
- Britannia:**
6. Kingdom of Scotland.
7. Kingdom of England.
- Between the Don & the Rhine:**
8. Prussian Sea
9. Riga.
10. *Here are the confines of the Pagans and Christians, who are continually fighting with one another in Prussia*
11. Litefani
12. Dresden
13. Vandalia
14. Gurse
15. Mangobres
16. Tarelant
17. Standar
18. Sacsonia
19. River Albia
20. Frisia.
21. The great river Don
22. *Seven Christian camps in pagan forests.*
23. Polonia.
24. Moravia
25. *The stag when pressed by dogs drinks water which it vomits upon them boiling.*
26. *Here cross the Bohemian Forests, which extend to the Pagans.*
27. Austa.
28. River Danube.
29. Bayveria
30. Buda [Budapest]
31. Patavia
32. Sclavonia
33. Austria
34. Ungaria [Hungary]
35. Viana. [Vienna]
36. *These provinces are flat, and deserted on account of the fighting of the Pagans against the Christians.*
37. Rusia.
38. *Here dwell the Scythians or poor Tartars who through want sell their children and parents in the markets just as cattle amongst Christians.*
39. Boxiana
40. Magna Valachia [Romania]
41. Capha
- West of the Rhine:**
42. River Rinus [Rhine]
43. Ays
44. Balsa
45. Brogundia.
46. Trasboure
47. Seina [Seine River]
48. Colonia
49. Roam.
50. *Paris sine . . . pare bonitate et dominio sedet in . . . sitate planito et castelleto. . . ania,*
51. Nantes
52. Orleans
53. Spanish Sea.
54. Angers
55. Bordeaux