A grand library with wooden bookshelves filled with books. In the center, a large globe sits on a decorative stand. To the right, a window with a chandelier above it lets in light. In the foreground, a wooden desk and a chair are visible. The room is filled with books and historical artifacts.

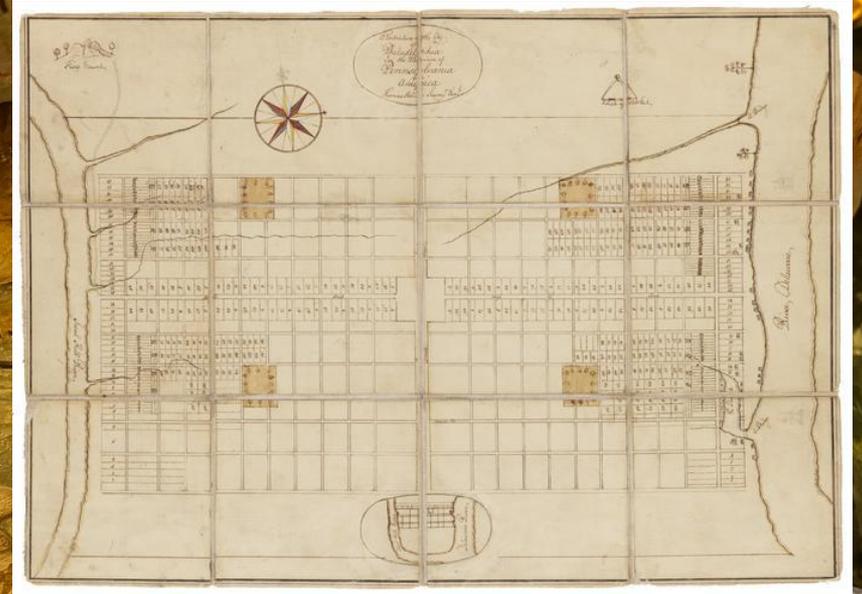
17th and 18th Century Cartography

Curated By: Miriam Heiss

Map of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

In 1683, **William Penn**—founder of Pennsylvania—wanted to further his "**Holy Experiment**," a **utopian** way of living. He hired **Thomas Holme** to design a grid-like plan for Philadelphia, aspiring for a "greene country towne." This map illustrates how **early Colonial cities were more spread out**, or "greener," than European cities.

(Historical Society of Pennsylvania)

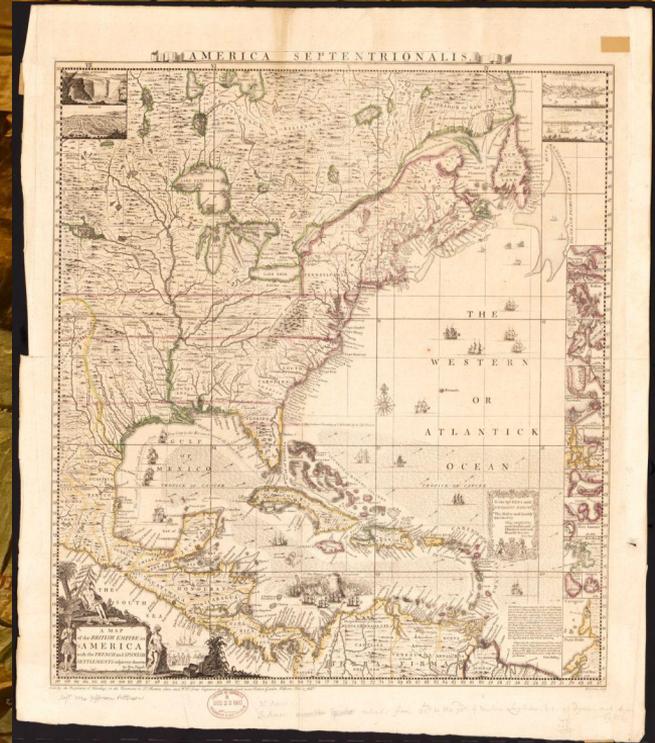


Map of Philadelphia, 1683

Map of British North America

Henry Popple's *America Septentrionalis* was one of the **earliest**, most **accurate** and **detailed** maps depicting **British North America**. It refers to the Atlantic ocean as the **Western Ocean**, displaying the **Anglo-centric perspective** British colonists had. The map also shows numerous islands considered part of British North America.

(The American Yawp Reader)

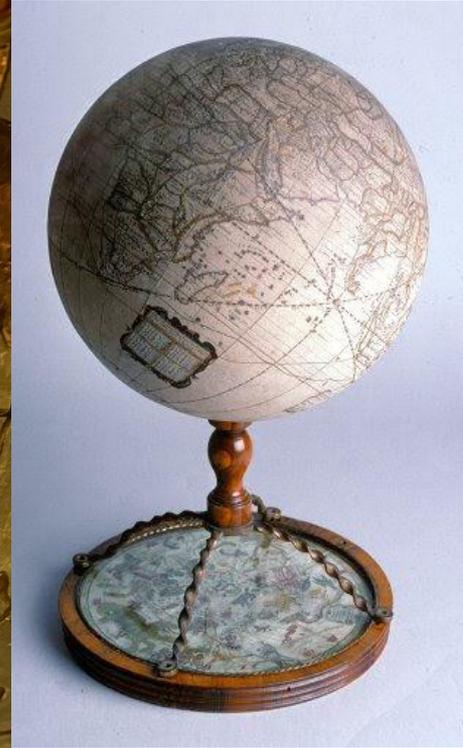


Map of British North America, 1733

English Globe

This English Globe represents **how British colonists saw** the entirety of **the world**, not just a city or a colony. Setting **Southern England parallel to the horizon** was common in British world maps, like this one, and led to Greenwich becoming the **Prime Meridian** in 1884.

(Livesey)



The English Globe, 1679

Conclusion: Connections of the Past

In the 17th and 18th century, Britain was one of the **most powerful nations** in the world. Holding so much power allowed them to control **how the world was viewed** in their society, and **how they were perceived** in the rest of the world. In *America Septentrionalis*, the Atlantic ocean was **named in relation to England**, being called the Western ocean. The globe—not the first, but certainly one of the most influential—was drawn so **London was parallel with the horizon**, and that has affected every map since. In the map of Philadelphia, we can see how **America** wanted to make itself **different from Britain**. Creating new ways for cities to be laid out, and implementing new forms of government **set America apart** from its ruler across the pond, and spurred on a desire for revolution.



The English Globe

(Whipple Museum)

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