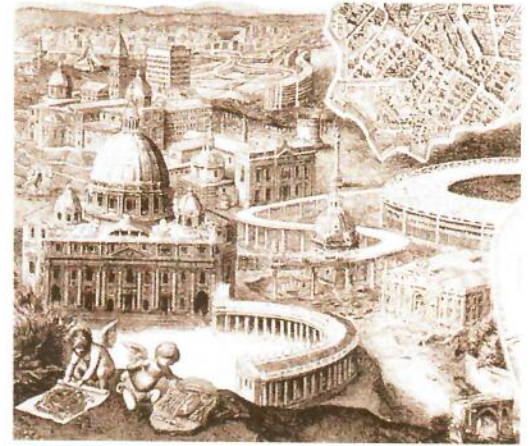


Medieval and Renaissance Geography and Travel in Special Collections



La Pianta Marmorea di Roma Antica: Forma Urbis Romae

(Folio G1989 .R7 P5 1960)

Reproduction of a massive marble map of ancient Rome carved under the emperor Septimius Severus between 203 and 211. It hung on the wall of the Temple of Peace. The Forma Urbis Romae depicted the ground plan of every building and monument in the imperial city at a scale of 1:240. The original was broken apart during the Middle Ages with only about 10-15% of fragments remaining. This reproduction was created by the scholar Gianfilippo Carettioni in 1960.

Egyptian Hieratic Papyrus from the Reign of Rameses III (Papyrus Harris no. I)

(Folio: PJ1771 .H37 1876)

A facsimile of a papyrus from the British Museum. Introduction and translation by Samuel Birch in 1876. The original papyrus was commissioned by Pharaoh Rameses IV around 1200 BCE to honor his father Rameses III. It is 133 feet long, the longest known papyrus from ancient Egypt. It describes Rameses III's donations to the gods and temples, events of his reign, and an idealized account of the upheaval before Rameses III's father, Setnakhte, restored order.

Tabula Nova Orbis (Yet to be cataloged, 1535)

This map of the new world was created by Frenchman Laurent Fries, who included it in his Ptolemaic atlas. It was based on Martin Waldseemuller's world map of 1513. Note the kings in Russia, Ethiopia, Egypt, Taprobana (Sri Lanka?), and Mursuli (Myanmar?) and the elephant near Greenland. No hint of North America is shown.

Africae Nova Descriptio (Yet to be cataloged, 1647)

This "new description of Africa" was created by Willem and Jan Blaeu of the Dutch East India Company in Amsterdam. It was based on previous printings in 1617 and 1626. Much of the geographical information is based on Ptolemaic maps. The illustrations include panels of cities and native costumes, and extensive depictions of animals, both real and monstrous. Information about the interior was derived from Leo Africanus' 16th-century *A Geographical Historie of Africa* and stories from traders.