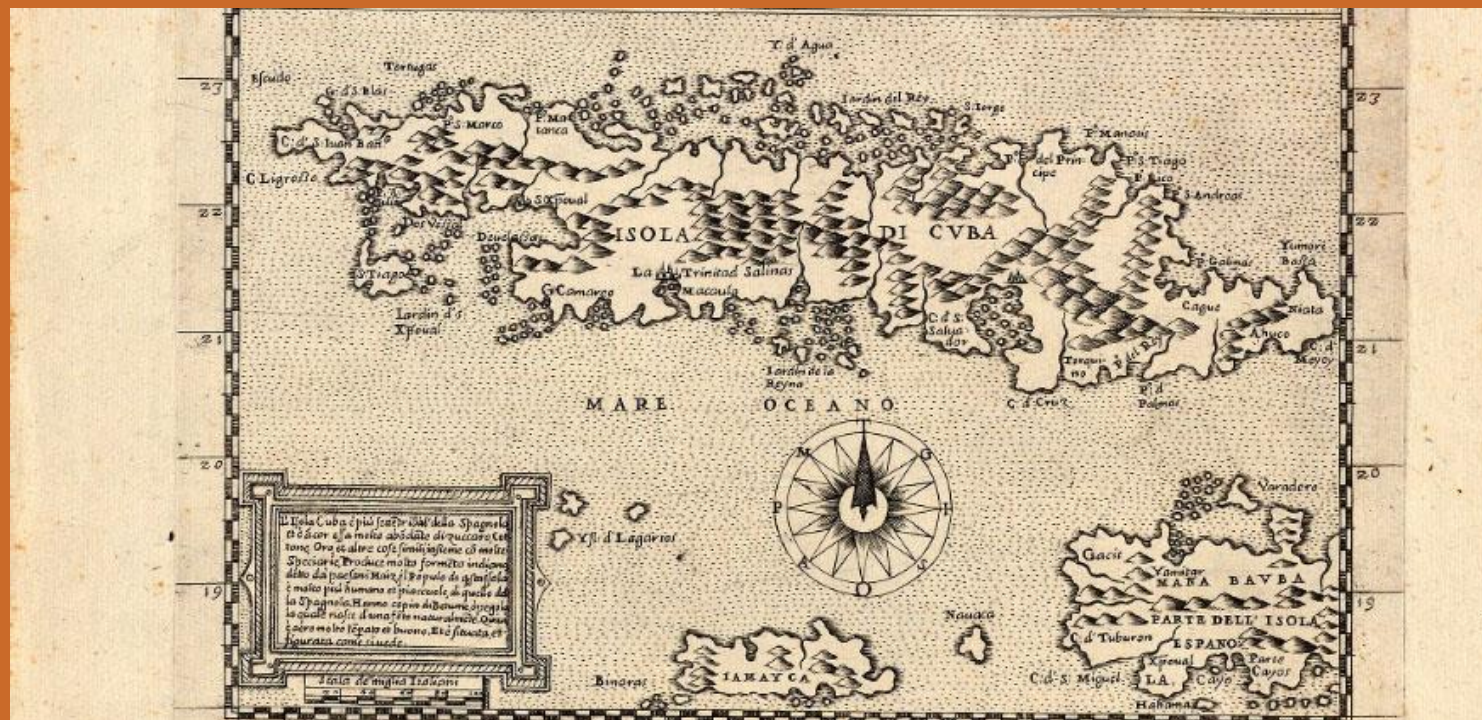


Seadogs of the Caribbean

The Explorers' World on Maps

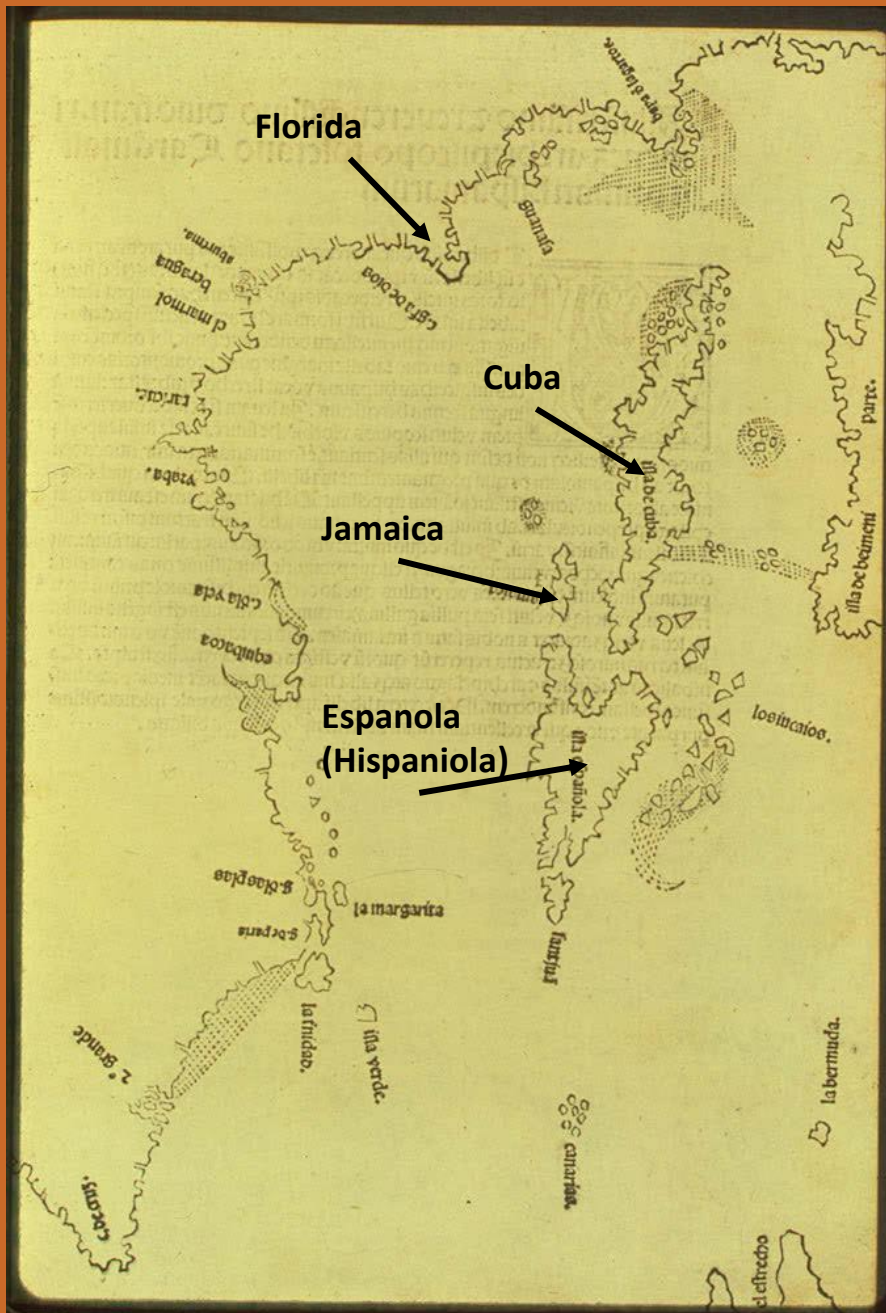


Central America and the Caribbean



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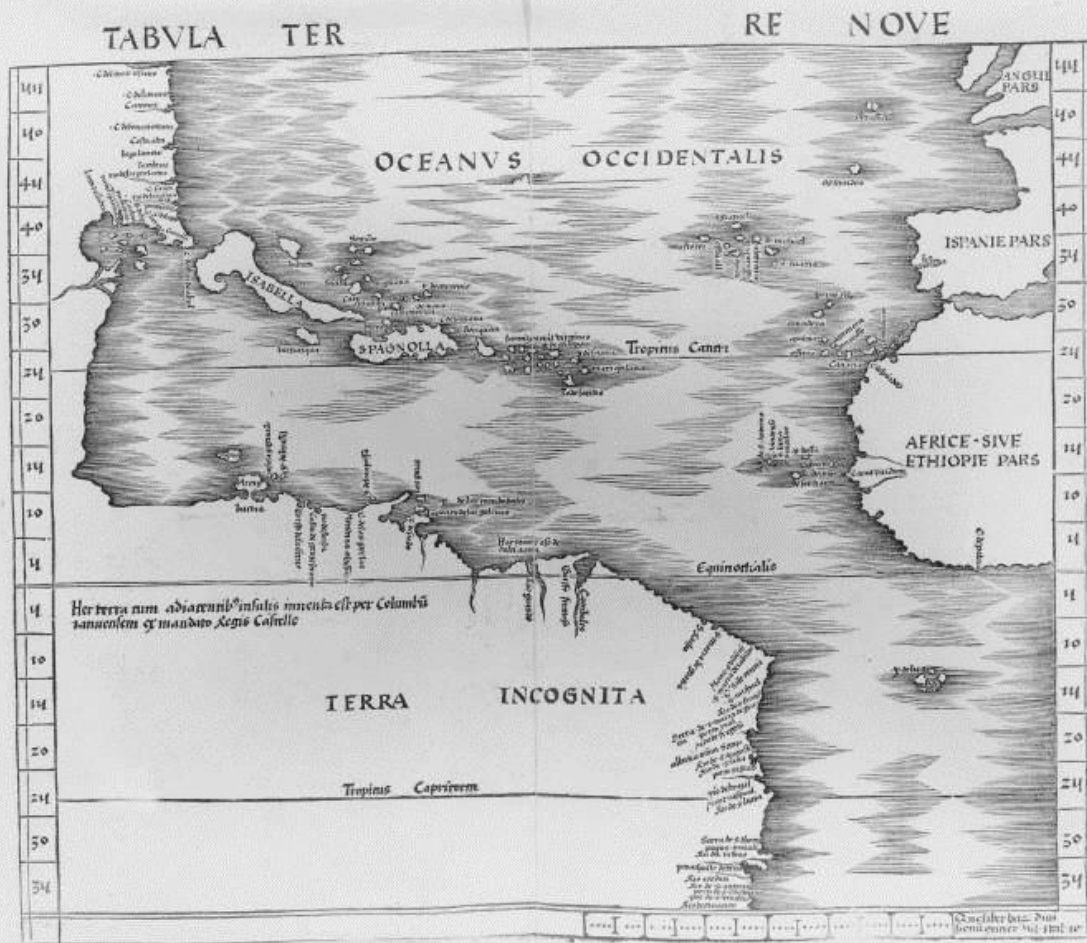
This map is written in Spanish, but some names are the same, such as Jamaica (the “J” looks like “i”), Cuba (Isla de Cuba), and Bermuda.

The dotted areas might be shallow waters.

Today, Hispaniola is divided between Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

Who might have used this map?

Pietro Martire
d'Anghiera, 1511
Courtesy of the
John Carter
Brown Library



Original in the John Carter Brown Library at Brown University

The dark area is the Atlantic Ocean. "Terra Incognita" means "Unknown Land". That's South America. Why would it be unknown?

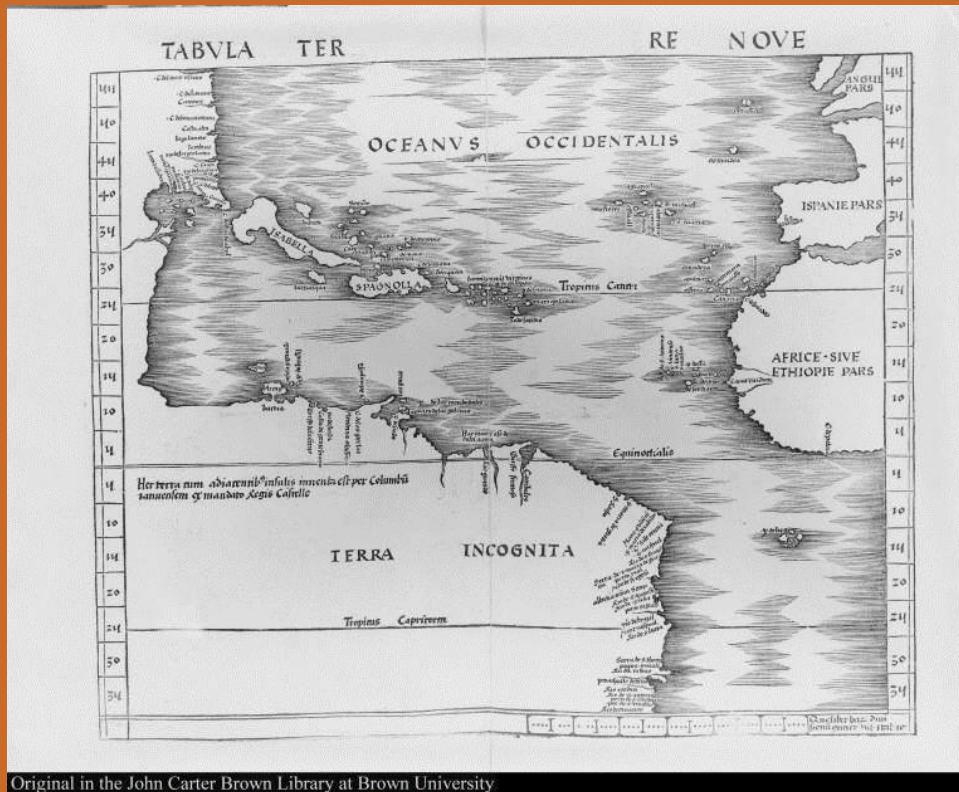
Who might have used this map?

Does the map show everything on your list of what the explorers might have wanted to see? Is anything missing that might have been helpful to them?

Tabula Terre Nove

By Ptolemy, 1513

Courtesy of the John Carter Brown Library



Find Florida on the old map. Now find it on the modern blank map. Is it in the right place on the old map?

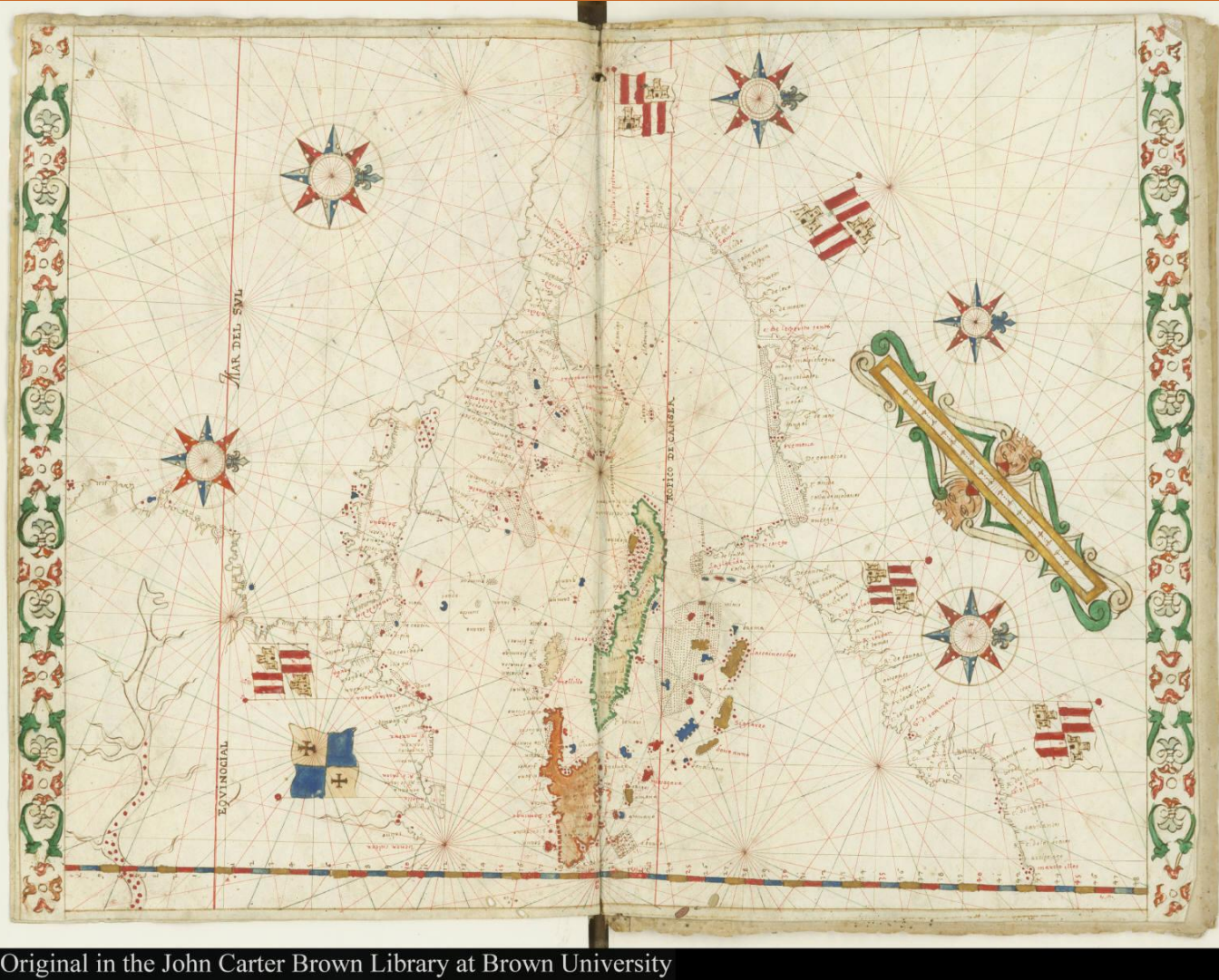
Find Africa on the old map. Is it really that close to South America?



This map is about 40 years newer than the first two maps and it has more information added to it. What more do you see?

There's a pattern on this map to where the most settled areas can be found. What is it?

1554
Courtesy of the John Carter Brown Library



This map is oriented differently. See if you can find Florida.

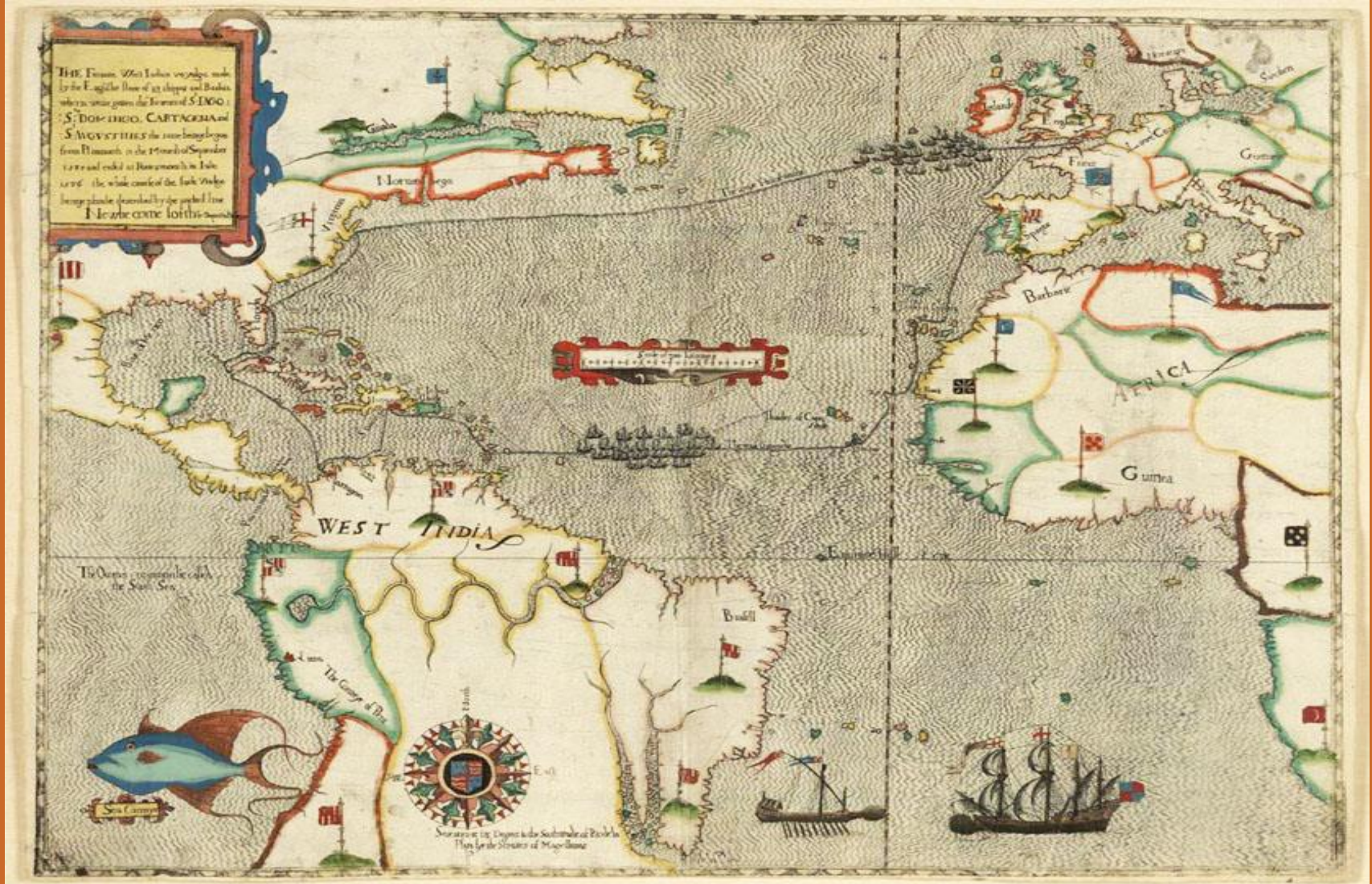
Hint: look at the direction the “compass roses” point. (The blue 3-pointed part is the arrow on each.) Turn the map so that north is at the top.

Why are the Caribbean Islands colored, when the surrounding land is not? What do you think the purpose of this map might have been?

1592

Courtesy of the John Carter Brown Library

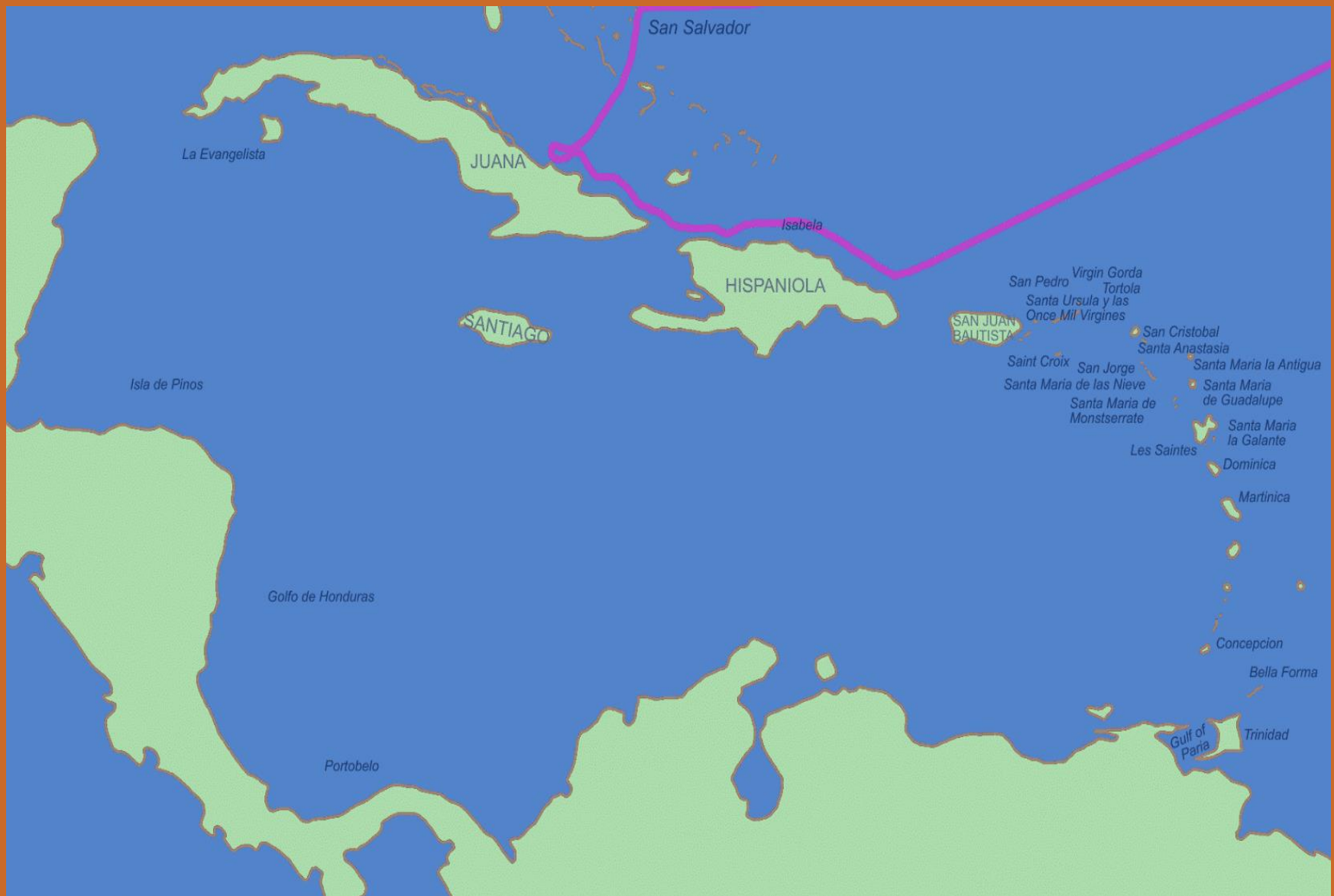
Original in the John Carter Brown Library at Brown University



Sir Francis Drake's 1585 Voyage
 by Giovanni Battista Boazio
 1589

Courtesy of the John Carter Brown Library

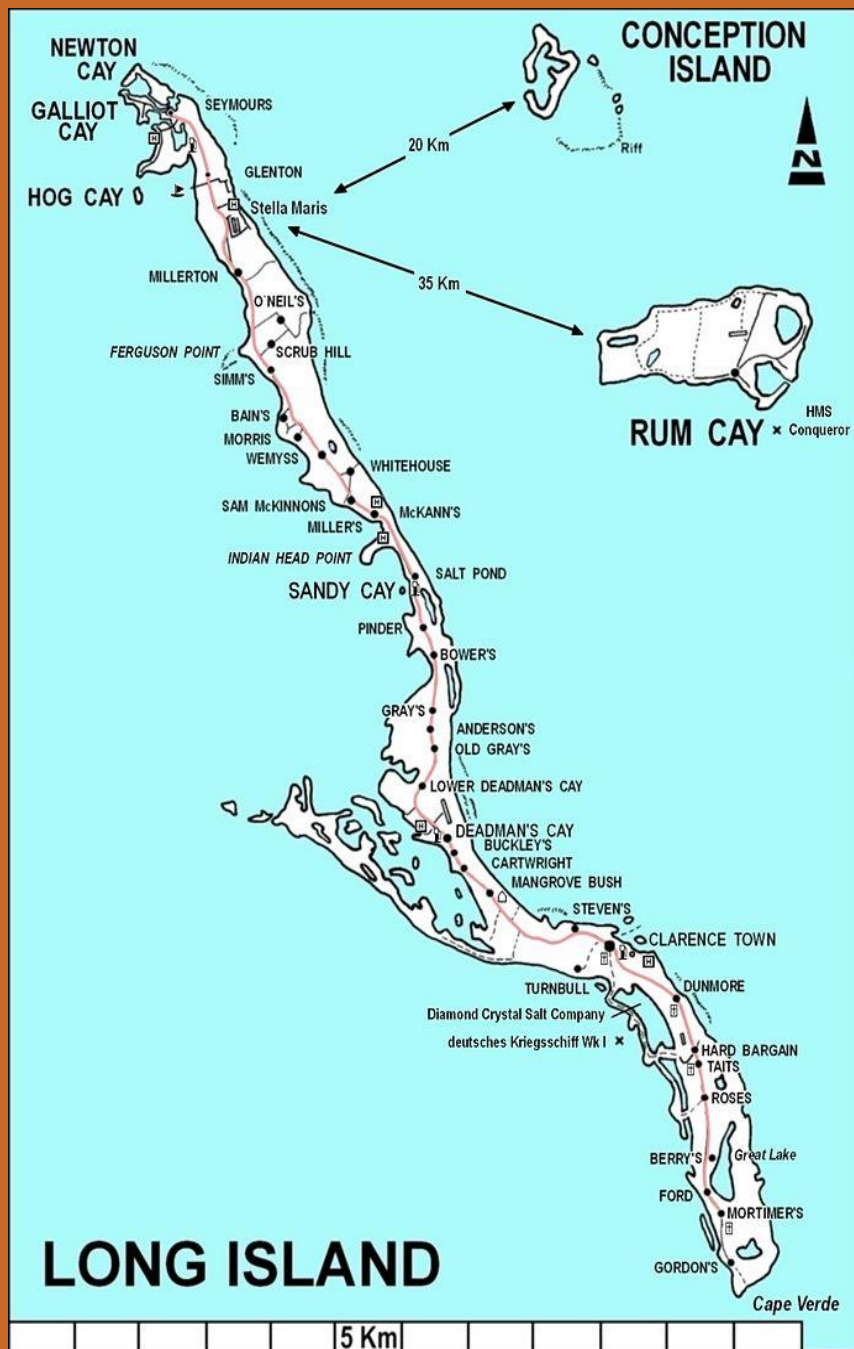




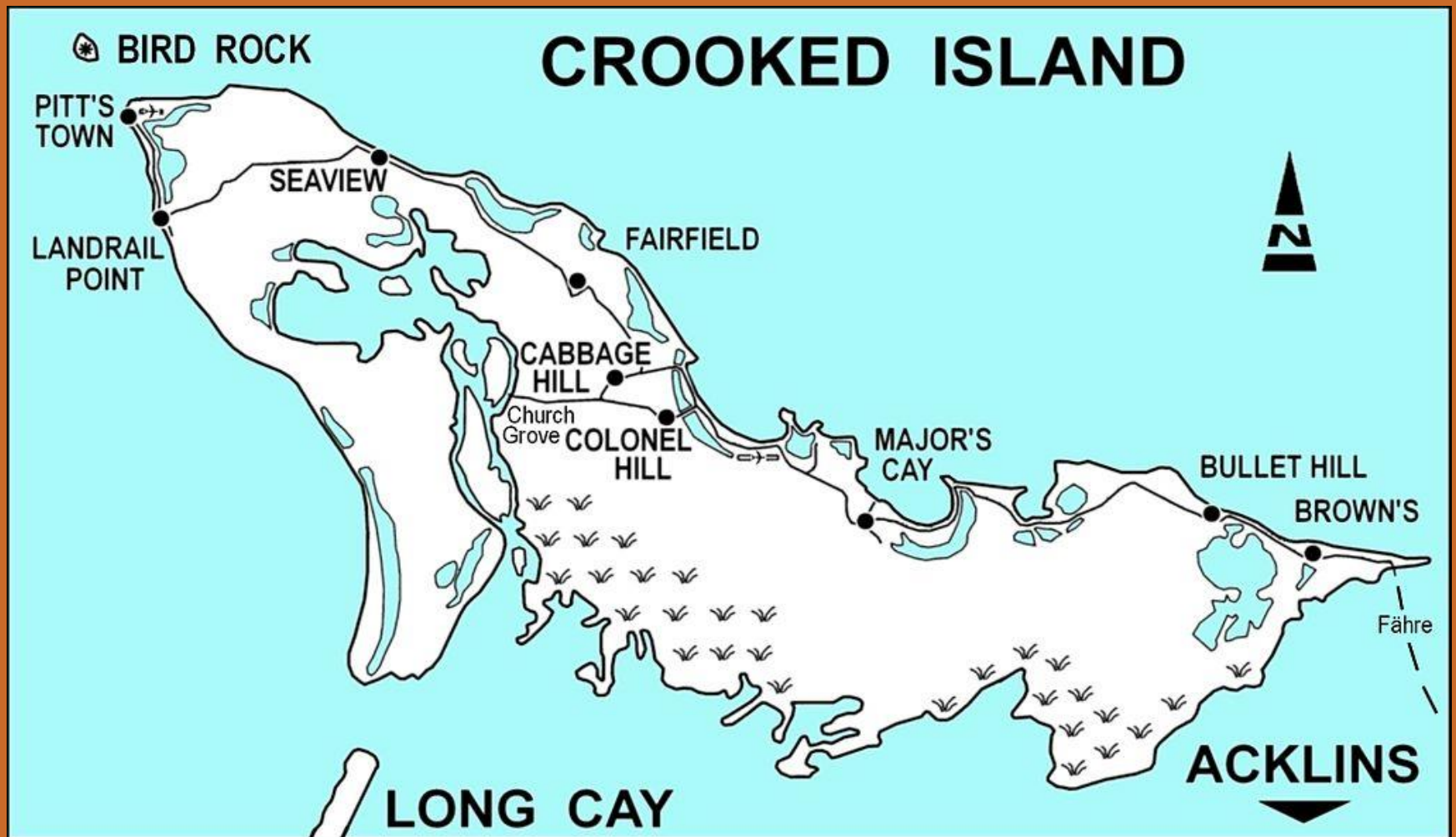
Christopher Columbus's First Voyage, 1492



Fernandia is now Long Island and Isabella is now Acklins/Crooked Island



Fernandia is now Long Island



Commons.Wikimedia.org
Isabella is now Acklins/Crooked Island