



Columbus Across Time and Culture

Myth vs. Fact

Hero or Villain or Victim

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Introduction

Columbus continues to be a controversial historical figure. He was a plebeian who rose to nobility. He was not highly educated but he deeply admired learning. He maintained a strong belief that his God would open the sea road to the earthly paradise. And, in the end, he had conquered the Sea of Darkness. “While pursuing one vision, he inadvertently realized another: the outreach of Europe into a hitherto separate, but henceforth vastly wider world. Christopher Columbus began a process that, in words from a passage in one of the books of Esdras, ‘shook the earth, moved the round world, made the deeps shudder, and turned creation upside down.’

The year 1492 is presented as a great year for America, for it is the year in which Christopher Columbus crossed the Atlantic. According to many American writers, Columbus is a hero. He "discovered America," he "opened up the New World," and he is "one of the greatest men in history." This, however, is more myth than reality.

October 12 is a day of celebration for some and a time of mourning for others. While some people contend that Christopher Columbus was a brave explorer who deserves to be revered, others counter that he was a brutal person and an incompetent navigator who ushered in centuries of death and oppression for those who lived on this continent before his arrival. Where did such divergent views come from? And, who is right?

Historical Background

Columbus departed from the seaport of Palos on Friday, August 3, 1492 bound for the Indies with signed contracts with the Spanish Sovereigns guaranteeing “ten percent of all gold, gems, spices or other merchandise produced or obtained by trade within these domains, tax free; he shall have the right to invest in one eighth of any ship going thither; and these offices and emoluments will be enjoyed by his heirs and successors forever.” Seventy days later, at 2:00 A.M. on October 1st, Rodrigo de Triana spotted land — Watlings Island. Columbus went ashore and gave this island the name San Salvador—Holy Savior.

After his initial landing Columbus continued to explore the Caribbean region, discovering additional islands named in honor of the Spanish Crown and of the Catholic Church. The second island was called Isla de Santa Marina de Conception; the third, Ferrandina; the fourth, La Isla Belles and the fifth, La Isla Juana. In his *First Letter From The New World*, Columbus described in detail the numerous large harbors

and rivers as well as the magnificent vegetation with a wide variety of fruits and herbs. There were also many references to many mines of metals and the abundance of gold. However, the islands that he discovered were not rich. The quantities of gold that he claimed he was just about to discover were always on the next island. As for the herbs, the islands had large supplies of aloe and gum mastics but no valuable spices. The only real wealth of this area were its human inhabitants who were forced into digging for the non-existent gold almost immediately. Columbus also advocated exporting them to Spain but the Catholic sovereigns frowned on this suggestion and returned the natives to their islands (although slavery for people from Africa and other parts of the world was encouraged). As for Columbus's *First Letter*, it became the most important document for the first voyage since it summarized the Admiral's discoveries and achievements. One should note, however, that it tells nothing of any adverse events because it was, after all, a success story that brought Columbus fame and honor as well as additional funding for his second voyage.

On his return from the first voyage, Columbus rode beside King Ferdinand through the streets of Barcelona. He was accorded great honors for his service to his God and to his King. He enjoyed the unique favor of sitting in the presence of the King and Queen and he was accorded the title "Don".

The following year, Columbus set sail for America with a major expedition of seventeen ships, twelve hundred immigrants and a wide variety of horses, cows, pigs and sheep. The Spanish Crown had directed Columbus to establish a major trading colony, to convert as many natives as possible, and to explore Cuba to ascertain whether or not it was the Asiatic mainland.

Whatever Columbus's skill was a mariner, he was extremely inept in his handling of his men and the inhabitants of the islands. He could not control his settlers in the island of Hispaniola and his relationships with the Arawaks disintegrated rapidly. On their first arrival, the Spaniards were favorably received by the Arawak people, who traded food, water, and a few gold ornaments for brass bells, broken glass and pottery. Since they believed that the white strangers had come down from the sky, they welcomed them with awe and affection. But soon after Columbus had left to return to Spain, it appeared that some of the original thirty-nine men at La Navidad had seized Indian women for sexual purposes. Returning from Spain on his second voyage in 1493, Columbus found the fort burned to the ground and all his men dead.

Though distraught at the loss at La Navidad, Columbus continued his mission sailing eastward to the island of La Isabela in his exploration for gold. But there was little gold to be found and soon the Admiral's empire began to fall apart as the settlers, most of them pardoned criminals, revolted. Several men were imprisoned or hanged. The struggling community of La Isabela was brought to her knees by violence,

venereal disease, and a hurricane that destroyed several ships in the harbor. It was a bitter disappointment for Columbus.

Columbus's third voyage to America yielded the discovery of Trinidad and some very strange theories about the shape of the world, but riots and revolts continued as Columbus ruthlessly executed anyone who rebelled against him—Spaniards were executed, men were refused supplies, and Native Indians were enslaved against the direct orders of the Crown. In 1500, Ferdinand and Isabella sent a royal investigator to Espanola where he wasted little time imprisoning Columbus, placing him in chains, and returning him to Spain. Columbus's career as a colonizer was over. He would again sail to the West, but by then he would be only one of several adventurers exploring the Indies.

Columbus labored for the restoration of his awards and remunerations that he had initially contracted with the Sovereigns in April, 1492, and gradually he regained a degree of royal favor. He received substantial monies for that time period but nowhere near the revenues of the original pact.

The last part of the Admiral's life was plagued with illness, probably having contracted malaria or typhus on his voyages, and he died on May 20, 1506 at the age of fifty-five. His body was buried in Franciscan robes, then moved to a monastery in Seville, then shipped to Santo Domingo about 1540, then moved to Havana in 1796, and then back to Seville in 1899. But controversy continues to this day because speculation exists that the wrong bones were moved.

Well, in any case, Columbus continues to be a controversial historical figure. He was a plebeian who rose to nobility. He was not highly educated but he deeply admired learning. He maintained a strong belief that his God would open the sea road to the earthly paradise. And, in the end, he had conquered the Sea of Darkness. "While pursuing one vision, he inadvertently realized another: the outreach of Europe into a hitherto separate, but henceforth vastly wider world. Christopher Columbus began a process that, in words from a passage in one of the books of Esdras, 'shook the earth, moved the round world, made the deeps shudder, and turned creation upside down.'

16th Century and 17th Century (1500 – 1600's)

National Hero for Both Spain and Italy

Explorer, Discoverer

Columbus's reputation in history has followed a rather curious course. His navigational skills, his persistence, his knowledge and his sheer guts carried Europe across the Sea of Darkness. " 'The Admiral was the first to open the gates of that ocean which had been closed for so many thousands of years before,' wrote Bartolome de las Casas a half-century later in a comprehensive account of the voyages, which remains to this day a major source of knowledge about Columbus." But by the early years of the sixteenth century, the accomplishments of explorers like Vespucci, Cortes, Pizarro, Vasco da Gama and Magellan robbed Columbus of his prominence. Many history books written in this time period either scarcely mentioned him or ignored him altogether.

By the middle of the sixteenth century, Columbus began to emerge from the shadows of history. In 1552, according to "the historian Francisco López de Gomara, 'The greatest event since the creation of the world (excluding the incarnation and death of Him who created it) is the discovery of the Indies. Columbus came to epitomize the explorer and discoverer, the man of vision and audacity, the hero who overcame opposition and adversity to change History.'" By the end of the sixteenth century and the beginning of the seventeenth, Columbus was celebrated in poetry and plays, especially in Italy and Spain.

18th -19th Century (1700- 1800s)

Columbus Myth in North America :

New Beginnings, Success, Sainthood

The association between Columbus and America prospered in the eighteenth century as the revolutionary colonists began to distance themselves from England. In Columbus they found a man who had challenged the unknown sea and who had distanced himself from the Old World while finding a vast continent for new beginnings, much as they were attempting to do.

The first celebration of the discovery of America occurred in New York, on October 12, 1792, when the order of Columbia held a dinner in order of Columbus. At that time the only statue of the great discoverer in existence was situated in New York. King's College in New York had been changed to Columbia University, the new nation's capital was to be called the District of Columbia, and Columbus had become a national hero.

In 1882, the founding fathers of the Knights of Columbus chose Columbus as their patron because they declared themselves in the mainstream of American social conscience and directly linked to the patriotic ideals of the republic. This organization was instrumental in lobbying for the Columbus memorial in Washington D.C. and in seeking to have Columbus canonized.

In 1892, the four hundredth anniversary of Columbus's voyage was marked by a year long celebration throughout the United States. President Harrison praised Columbus as a man of progress and vision. In New York, a portion of Central Park was renamed Columbus Circle, complete with a statue honoring this hero. Congress voted funds to help state an international exposition as a tribute to the historic event and to Columbus himself. The Columbian Exposition took place in Chicago in the summer of 1893 because it was not possible to complete the buildings in time for an observance in 1892.

“The image of Columbus is pervasive in the U.S. Capitol complex; since the late nineteenth century, over a dozen images have been displayed. Columbus as a subject appeared as early as 1822, with the most recent commission the 1940 Buell Mullen mural in the Hispanic Room of the Library of Congress. The moral vision of Columbus remains consistent throughout, however. He is portrayed as pious and thoughtful, qualities often remarked upon by his contemporaries, yet courageous and bold, the reflected image Americans wished to see of themselves.”

This exposition was considered to be the premier expression of the national spirit of the United States in its day. Congress also asked the President to issue a proclamation urging all Americans to observe the four hundredth anniversary of our continent "by suitable exercises in their schools, and other places of assembly." Columbus had arrived—he was now considered the spirit of American success.

20th Century (1900)

Columbus Day as National Holiday in the United States

Hero to Villain

The first state celebration was in Colorado in 1905, and in 1937, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt set aside Columbus Day as holiday in the United States. Since 1971, the holiday has been commemorated in the U.S. on the second Monday in October.

In 1905, the governor of Colorado asked the people of his state to celebrate the anniversary; in 1906, the mayor of Chicago made a similar request of the citizens. The Knights of Columbus also kept urging the states to make the date a legal holiday. Such a bill became a law in New York in 1909.

On October 12, 1909, two Italian cruisers and several American warships were in New York Harbor. Everyone was thrilled when three small ships, replicas of the "Santa Maria", the "Nina" and the "Pinta", moved slowly up the river, as battleships dipped their colors and cannon boomed our salutes. On the same day, the members of Italian societies and other organizations turned out in force to parade up Fifth Avenue to Columbus Circle; and Governor Hughes gave the chief address at a large gathering of the Knights of Columbus in Carnegie Hall. After this impressive celebration, public opinion grew in favor of making Columbus Day a legal holiday. It was not until September 1934 that President Franklin D. Roosevelt sent out a proclamation, asking all the forty-eight states to observe October 12 as a national holiday. Finally, Columbus Day became a federal legal holiday in 1971 after lobbying from the National Columbus Day Committee. Ever since, the second Monday in October has meant closed schools and children chiming: "In fourteen hundred and ninety-two, Columbus sailed the ocean blue."

Quincentenary 1992

In public forums, Columbus is being marked as the precursor of exploitation. In *The Conquest of Paradise*, Kirkpatrick Sale "argues that Columbus was a grasping fortune hunter whose legacy was the destruction of the native population and rape of the land that continues to this day." Descendants of Native Indians and slaves brought to the New World are understandably reluctant to celebrate the Quincentenary. In 1986, the United Nations abandoned its attempt to plan a major celebration. And even in Seville, Spain, at the opening of this year's World's Fair, Columbus and related Quincentenary activities were noticeably absent. Once again, Columbus has become a symbol but this time a symbol of exploitation.

Opposition to the Myth

A few decades ago, grade-school textbooks began embracing the concept of multiculturalism; strict Eurocentric views were no longer appropriate. At this time the view of Columbus underwent a revision in these books. Now many of these textbooks recount the atrocities he committed along with the traditional view of Columbus. Columbus "encountered" instead of discovered. Interestingly enough, there remain those believers of the myth even when presented with factual evidence who choose to idealize and praise Columbus. And there exists a generational gap in the dissemination of the facts which further confuses the issue.

Some people, particularly Native Americans, find the holiday offensive because they object to honoring a person who they see as opening the door to European colonization, the exploitation of native peoples and

the slave trade. In the United States, this has caused a persistent controversy between Native Americans and Italian-Americans. Some communities, such as Berkeley, California have renamed the holiday to "Indigenous Peoples Day". In 2002, the Venezuelan government renamed the holiday to *Día de la Resistencia Indígena* ("Day of Indigenous Resistance"). In 2004, Venezuelan activists toppled a statue of Columbus in Caracas on the day of the celebration.

Facts Revisited:

MYTH: Columbus set out to prove the earth was round.

FACT: At the end of the 15th Century, most everyone knew the earth was a sphere. What was in question, however, was the size of the earth--its circumference. Columbus underestimated the size of the earth by one-fourth.

MYTH: Queen Isabella sold the crown jewels to pay for Columbus' voyage.

FACT: The queen may have suggested this at some point, but her financial advisers assured her that there were other ways to finance the enterprise. One way was to make the city of Palos pay back a debt to the crown by providing two of the ships. Another way was to get Italian financial backing for part of the expenses. The crown had to put up very little money from the treasury.

MYTH: The crew of the three ships on the voyage of discovery was made up mainly of criminals and nare-do-goods.

FACT: The crew was primarily comprised of seasoned sailors from the towns of Palos and Moguer, Spain, thanks to the efforts of the Pinzon brothers. Just in case Columbus might have had trouble attracting a crew, the crown did offer amnesty to criminals. However, only four criminals were on board: one a convicted murderer (he killed a man in a quarrel); the other three, accused of freeing him from prison.

MYTH: The initial voyage from Spain to the new world was perilous--fraught with bad weather and lack of food. Several sailors died on the way.

FACT: No one died on the maiden voyage. There was enough food aboard for one year. The weather was almost ideal--no storms were encountered. However, on the return trip to Spain there was

a major hurricane which almost destroyed the two remaining ships.

MYTH: There was a priest on board the Santa Maria in 1492.

FACT: There were no friars or priests on the first voyage in 1492, despite Columbus' deep religious fervor. Many of the paintings of the first landfall in the new world on San Salvador show a priest with Columbus--contrary to the facts. There were five priests on the second voyage: Benedictine Father Buil; the Jeronymite Father Ramon Pane; and three Franciscans.

MYTH: Several hundred sailors were aboard the three caravels on the initial voyage in 1492. The ships were relatively large for the anticipated long journey on an unpredictable sea.

FACT: Only 90 men made the first voyage of discovery. The ships were quite tiny by modern standards--no longer than a tennis court, and less than 30 feet wide. The Santa Maria had 40 men aboard, the Pinta, 26, and the Nina, 24. Only the Nina and the Pinta returned to Spain, as the Santa Maria was shipwrecked on Christmas Day, 1492. 39 men volunteered to stay behind at the fortress called "La Navidad" on the northern coast of present-day Haiti (they all perished at the hands of the Indians prior to the return of Columbus the following year).

MYTH: There is no doubt that Columbus was of Italian descent.

FACT: Much controversy surrounds the origins of Columbus. Some say he was a "converso"--a converted Jew. Others say he was born on Corsica, and there is even a theory that traces him to Viking ancestors. The prevailing theory is that he was a Genoese, born and raised in that seaport city in what is now Italy.

MYTH: Columbus died a pauper, in chains, in a Spanish prison.

FACT: Despite the fact that the Spanish crown retracted some of the privileges promised to Columbus, he was a relatively rich man at the time of his death. Although he returned to Spain in chains in 1500 after his third voyage, the King and Queen apologized for the misunderstanding and had them removed. Columbus died quietly at the age of 55 in Valladolid, Spain, on May 20, 1506 in his own apartment attended by family and friends.

MYTH: Columbus set foot on North American soil at some point now a part of mainland United States.

FACT: Columbus never saw North America. His first landfall was in the Bahamas, probably the current San Salvador (Watlings Island), although even this is disputed (Samana Cay, an island 65 miles south of San Salvador is a strong contender). There are proponents for seven other possible island landing sites. The only current U.S. territories either sighted or visited by Columbus are the U.S. Virgin Islands, which Columbus named on his second voyage, and Puerto Rico. While in anchor of St. Croix (USVI) on November 14, 1493, some of Columbus' crew experienced the first hostile encounter with the Indians. Five days later he landed at San Juan Bautista, now Puerto Rico. Later he would visit the northeastern tip of South America and the eastern coast of Central America, but never mainland U.S.A. The fact is that Columbus never admitted that he had discovered a new continent.

Other Interesting facts

WOMEN were not on the first or second voyages of Columbus. The first women colonists appeared in 1498, when Columbus was allowed to recruit one woman for every ten emigrants on the third voyage.

TOBACCO was introduced into Europe because of Columbus' discovery of its use by the Indians.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA were observed by Columbus on several of his voyages. He observed a "marvelous branch of fire" that fell into the sea (a meteor or a comet?) in 1492 on his first voyage. There is a record of a 280-pound meteorite which landed near the Alsatian town of Ensisheim and seen by the German King Maximilian in 1492. There was a total eclipse of the moon on September 14, 1494 (second voyage), which Columbus used to clarify his position (erroneously) near Asia. On the fourth voyage Columbus used his foreknowledge of a total eclipse of the moon on February 29, 1504, to convince the Indians of his supernatural powers.

FACT: The United States honors only two men with federal holidays bearing their names. In January we commemorate the birth of Martin Luther King, Jr., who struggled to lift the blinders of racial prejudice and to cut the remaining bonds of slavery in America. In October, we honor Christopher Columbus, who opened the Atlantic slave trade and launched one of the greatest waves of genocide known in history.

21st Century (2000 to present)

Even into the 21st century Columbus remains much of a mystery and is surrounded by controversy. There remain many versions of the story, the actual writings of Columbus have come into question. Was he writing what he thought Spain wanted to hear or was he portraying the facts as he believed them to be? I seek to explore some of the existing perspectives of the story. Below are listed some materials I may use in the interactive project.

Columbus as Faithful (continued internet research)

Christian History Institute (statements)

Kenneth Copeland Ministries (statements)

Columbus as Hero – Explorer

President Bush Speech Columbus Day 2004 (statement)

Historical References

Quotes from his letters

Book of Privileges

Columbus as Villain/Murderer

Revisionist History – see bibliography

Educating Kids Today

Songs, Rhymes

What are kids learning about Columbus today

Additional Resources for Narrative Project

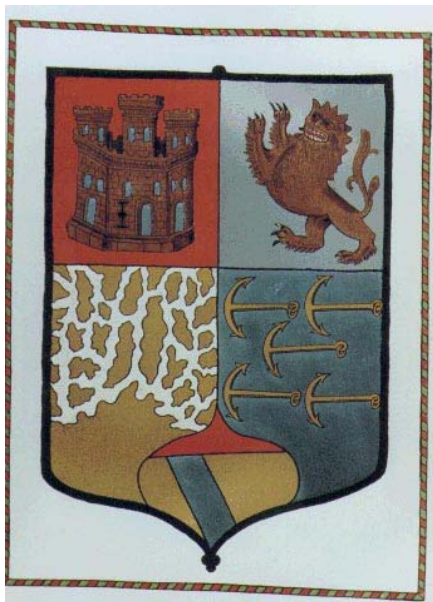
Media Resources

Sail On (recording of Poem)

Video Interviews –

http://www.freespeech.org/fsitv/html/eyes_columbusday.shtml

Visual Resources



COAT OF ARMS

As a reward for his successful voyage of discovery, the Spanish sovereigns granted Columbus the right to a coat of arms. According to the blazon specified in letters patent dated May 20, 1493, Columbus was to bear in the first and the second quarters the royal charges of Castile and León -- the castle and the lion -- but with different tinctures or colors. In the third quarter would be islands in a wavy sea, and in the fourth, the customary arms of his family.

The earliest graphic representation of Columbus' arms is found in his *Book of Privileges* and shows the significant modifications Columbus ordered by his own authority. In addition to the royal charges that were authorized in the top quarters, Columbus adopted the royal colors as well, added a continent among the islands in the third quarter, and for the fourth quarter borrowed five anchors in fess from the blazon of the Admiral of Castille. Columbus' bold usurpation of the royal arms, as well as his choice of additional symbols, help to define his personality and his sense of the significance of his service to the Spanish monarchs.



An original commemorative coin minted in Columbus' honor upon his triumphant return to Spain



Upon discovering Ptolemy's geography Columbus was convinced that the Indies could be reached by sailing West.

1992 US coins – 500 Years Later



1893 commemorative Coins -- 400 years later



The **Book of Privileges** is a collection of agreements between Columbus and the crowns of Spain prepared in Seville in 1502 before his 4th and final voyage to America. The compilation of documents includes the 1497 confirmation of the rights to titles and profits granted to the Admiral by the 1492 Contract of Santa Fé and augmented in 1493 and 1494, as well as routine instructions and authorizations related to his third voyage. We know that four copies of his *Book of Privileges* existed in 1502, three written on vellum and one on paper.

All three vellum copies have thirty-six documents in common, including the Papal Bull *Inter caetera* of May 4, 1493, defining the line of demarcation of future Spanish and Portuguese explorations, and specifically acknowledging Columbus' contributions. The bull is the first document on vellum in the Library's copy and the thirty-sixth document in the Genoa and the Paris codices. The Library copy does not have the elaborate rubricated title page, the vividly colored Columbus coat of arms, or the authenticating notarial signatures contained in the other copies. The Library's copy, however, does have a unique transcription of the Papal Bull *Dudum siquidem* of September 26, 1493, extending the Spanish donation. The bull is folded and addressed to the Spanish sovereigns.

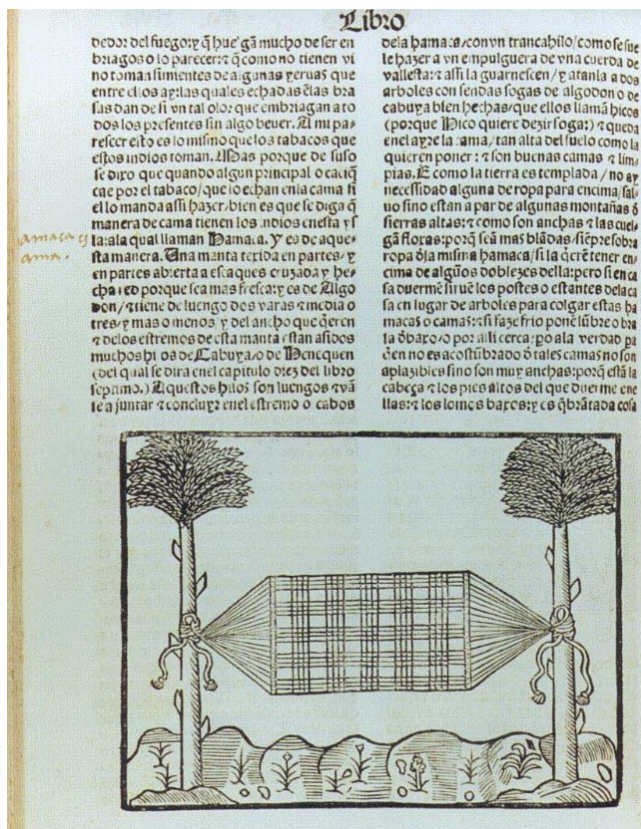
This intriguing Library copy is the only major compilation of Columbus' privileges that has not received modern documentary editing. Comprehensive textual analysis and careful comparison with other known copies is essential to establishing its definitive place in Columbus scholarship



Constantino Brumidi, an immigrant Italian painter, had a special fondness for representing Columbus in his work of the nineteenth century. As the chief fresco artist in the Capitol, Brumidi chose Columbus as his subject on three separate occasions. The first is *Christopher Columbus--Discovery* of 1859, a ceiling decoration in the President's Room of the Senate Wing. He is shown with a globe, a chart, a compass, and a sextant, and is found in relation to three other American "worthies": *Americus Vespucis--Exploration*; *Benjamin Franklin--History*; and *William Brewster--Religion*. As with other representations, he is portrayed as thoughtful yet bold, dark haired and olive complected. This theme continues in Brumidi's lunette in the west corridor of the Senate Wing, *Columbus and the Indian Maiden*, c. 1875. He is depicted physically in a similar vein, yet the piety and thoughtfulness have given way to bold exploration and confidence, seen in his "unveiling" of the Indian maiden on the Bahamian beach. Finally, Brumidi included Columbus's landing as the first group in his monumental Rotunda frieze of 1878. The physical interpretation has shifted to a more "authentic" rendering, and again, the vision has changed slightly: he is the pious, yet still bold, explorer and missionary.



capellano



Hammock

In Fernández de Oviedo y Valdés,
La Historia general y natural de las Indias... (Seville, 1535).
 Rare Book and Special Collections Division

Oviedo came to America in 1514, where for over thirty years he compiled detailed ethnographic descriptions of the goods, products, peoples and customs of the Caribbean and Central America. He introduced Europe to a wide variety of previously unheard of New World "exotica" such as the pineapple, the canoe, the smoking of tobacco, and the hammock.

The indians sleep in a bed they call an 'hamaca' which looks like a piece of cloth with both an open and tight weave, like a net ... made of cotton ... about 2.5 or 3 yards long, with many henequen twine strings at either end which can be hung at any height. They are good beds, and clean ... and since the weather is warm they require no covers at all ... and they are portable so a child can carry it over the arm.

The hammock was perfected in the Caribbean and Brazil and was first introduced to Europeans during Columbus' first voyage of 1492.



Nina on Italian Coin 1



Replica Ships of Nina Pinta Santa Maria – NASA Photo





World Map

In [Donnus Nicolaus Germanus] *Cosmographia*, *Claudius Ptolemaeus* Ulm, 1482.
Thacher Collection,
Rare Book and Special Collections Division

The most popular geographical work to be printed from movable type in the fifteenth century was Ptolemy's *Geography* or *Cosmography*. Originally compiled by the Alexandrian geographer, astronomer, and mathematician Claudius Ptolemy in the second century A.D., it was translated from Greek into Latin in Florence, Italy about 1410. The map of the world here reproduced, beautifully illuminated with twelve wind heads, is one of thirty-two maps illustrating the edition of the *Cosmographia* issued from the press of Lienhart Holle of Ulm, Germany, on July 16, 1482. Holle's edition was the first to be printed north of the Alps and the first to include maps printed from woodcuts. To produce his printed edition, Holle used a manuscript copy prepared under the direction of the Benedictine Monk known as Donnus Nicolaus Germanus.

This world map shows the state of European cartographic knowledge of the world prior to Columbus' 1492 voyage. It reflects the Ptolemaic world view. The old (or known) inhabited world, *oikoumene*, is depicted as extending 180 degrees east and west, but in reality it covers only 105 degrees of longitude. This elongation, greatly shortening the unknown portion of the earth, was to influence navigators such as Christopher Columbus for many years. Also depicted is Ptolemy's mistaken notion that the Indian Ocean was an enclosed body of water, an idea that was to be disproved only five years later by the successful rounding of the Cape of Good Hope by Bartholomeu Dias of Portugal.

New information began to find its way into the classical representations then in circulation in Western Europe, and the 1482 world map was no exception. Nicolaus Germanus, for example, extended the map northward to show Iceland (correctly positioned north of the British Isles) and Greenland (incorrectly shown as a peninsula of Europe). Raleigh Skelton in the introduction to the facsimile edition of *Claudius Ptolemaeus Cosmographia, Ulm, 1482* (Amsterdam, 1963) noted that this is the "earliest printed delineation of Greenland, Iceland and the North Atlantic [on a world map]; and this was to exercise a potent influence in the cartography of the early 16th century."

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Text Resources

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Internet Resources

Education World http://www.education-world.com/a_curr/curr167.shtml

Free Speech Network http://www.freespeech.org/fsitv/html/eyes_columbusday.shtml

Carribean Amerindian Centrelink <http://www.centrelink.org/Columbus.html>

Columbus in the US Capitol <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~CAP/COLUMBUS/col4.html>

1492 An Ongoing Voyage :: Exhibit of the Library of Congress Washington DC
<http://www.ibiblio.org/expo/1492.exhibit/Intro.html>