

Northumberland World Map

Acquisition at auction of what appears to be the earliest known manuscript world chart to be produced by an Englishman. Research shows that it is most likely to be the work of Thomas Harriot or Edward Wright. The actual draughtsman was probably John Daniel. It seems to have been completed in 1614-15 and shows much about English discoveries in the Hudson Bay area. Additions were made several years later to show William Schouten's discoveries in the area of Tierra del Fuego in 1616. The interest in recent discoveries and mathematics points to a connection with the circle of Henry Percy, the 9th Earl of Northumberland (1564-1632) who was probably the map's original owner.

Nation/region

London

Grant awarded

£92,650

Award date

22/12/1990