

The first half contains accounts of voyages to India, China, Japan, Africa, and the Mediterranean, and the second half contains narratives of voyages to America and the West Indies, although Samuel Purchas himself was reckoned never to have travelled further than 200 miles from his Essex birthplace.



J-B. Bourguignon d'Anville, *Nouvel atlas de la Chine* (La Haye, 1737) classmark: Early Printed Books, SPEC GR.2.2.5.

This atlas by Jean-Baptiste Bourguignon d'Anville (1697-1782), contains 42 maps and plans of China, the Tartar kingdom, Korea, and Tibet which were reprinted without authorization from the maps of China drawn between 1708 and 1718 by nine Jesuits acting on the instructions of the emperor K'ang-hsi. The maps were later published to accompany the four-volume *Description géographique, historique, chronologique, politique, et physique de l'empire de la Chine* (Paris, 1735) by Father Jean-Baptiste du Halde (1674-1743). This work was a testament both to Chinese culture and to Jesuit propaganda, and remained the principal authority on China for the rest of the 18th century. French cartography was outstanding both for its accuracy and for its decorative qualities, and the maps of each province are ornamented with lively scenes of people and animals, including porcupine and turtles.

References:

The Art of the Book, online exhibition: <http://sca.lib.liv.ac.uk/collections/exhibs/ArtoftheBook.html> and previous exhibitions.

Copies of all the titles mentioned in the highlight are available for reading in Special Collections & Archives.