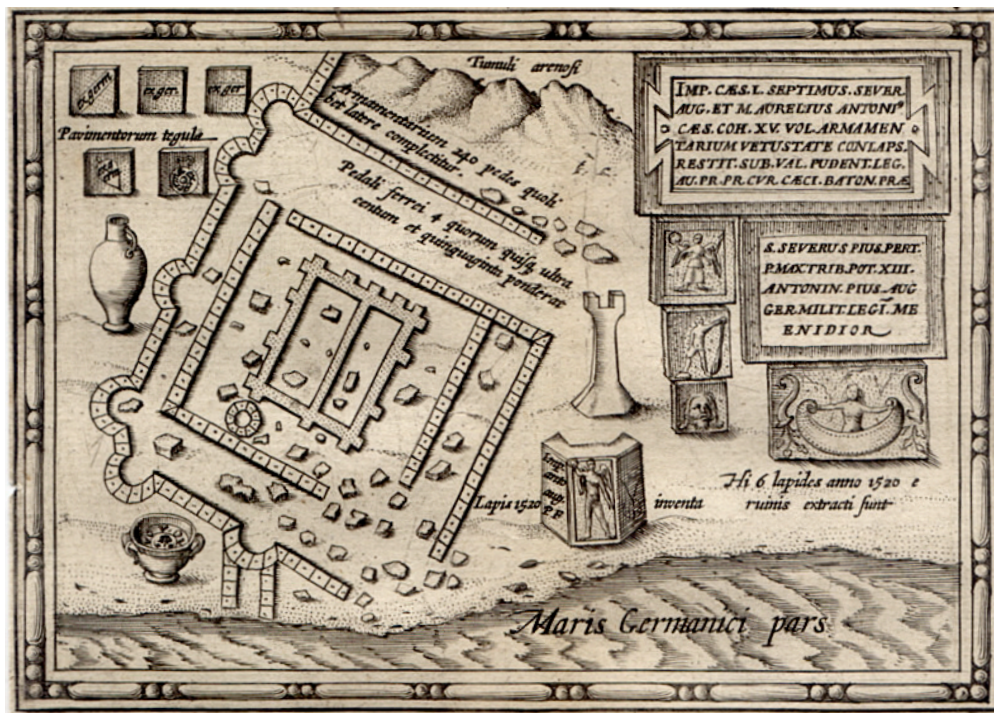


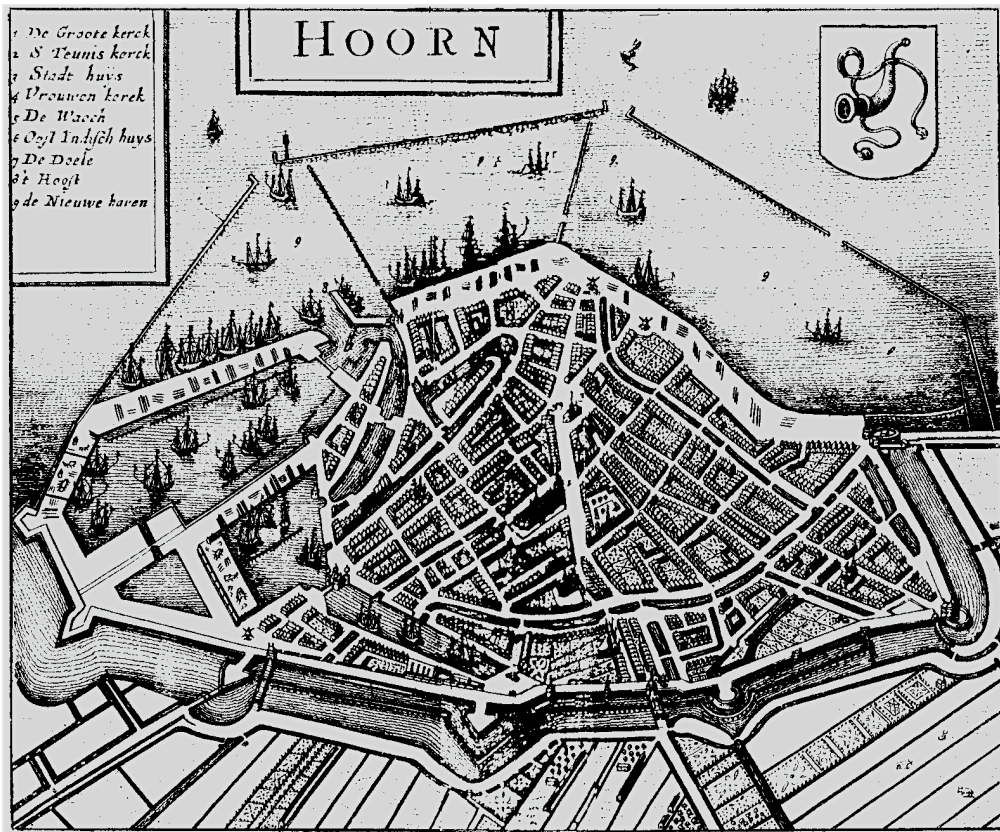
Lodovico Guicciardini's popular *Description of the Netherlands* was eventually translated from Italian into Latin by Regner Vitellius and published by Willem J. Blaeu. Over two decades later Blaeu produced a pocket version of it: a duodecimo work of almost 800 pages of letterpress, illustrated with two completely different sets of miniature plates relating to the Low Countries.



One of these consisted of twenty, finely done, double-page maps by Jodocus Hondius Junior, about 135 x 95 mm. and from a very large series first issued almost twenty years earlier (see 1616):

*Inferior Germania; Galliae Belgicae veteris accurata descriptio amico colendo do. P Bertio I Hondius Dt.; Brabantia; Limburgum; Lutzenburg; Flandria; Artesia; Hannonia; Namur; Leodiensis Dioecesis; Geldria; Hollandia; Hollandia Meridional.; Hollandia Septentr.; Arx Britannica or Huys te Britten (see above); De Zype; Zeelandia; Ultrajectum; Trans-Isula D.; Frisia.*

The other set was a new series of thirty-three detailed bird's-eye town plans, after Guicciardini. Also double-page but measuring about 130 x 110 mm., they are clearly drawn and decorated with heraldry, having both their keys and titles in plain panels. However, on some plans the coats of arms or key panels are blank and only fifteen\* have the keys completed:



*Leuven; Brussel; Antwerpen; 's Hertogenbos\*; Berghen op Zoom; Breda; Maastricht; Limburg; Mechelen; Lützenburg; Gent\*; Oostende; Lille, v. Ryssel; Douay; Tournay, v. Doornick\*; Arras, v. Atrecht; Mons, v. Bergen in Henegou; Namen\*; Zutphen; Dordrecht; Haarlem\*; Delft\*; Leyden\*; Amsterdam\*; Der Goude\*; Enchvysen\*; Hoorn\*; Alcmear\*; Rotterdam\*; 's Graven Hage\*; Middelburch; Wtrecht; Leeuwarden\*.*

Other little plans published later in Amsterdam copied their shape, size and style (see 1652 and 1661).

*Belgicae, sive Inferioris Germaniae, descriptio.* Amsterdam, Willem J. Blaeu, 1635 (the second of the three parts is dated 1633).

