Matthew Simmons published a pocket-book in 1635 containing a map of England (see 1602) and thirty-seven mileage tables, each about 100 mm . square. The book and its later versions are fully described by R.A. Skelton: County atlases of the British Isles, 1579-1703. London, Carta Press, 1970.

These scarce little tables were copied from those in John Norden's 1625 guidebook: England: an intended guyde for English travailers. They were engraved by Jacob van Langeren, with tiny thumbnail English county maps, like those of William Bowes' playing cards of 1590 (see 1590), in the bottom right hand corner of the plates:

Barke Shire wth some confining Townes; Bedford Shire; Bishoprick of Durham; Buckingham Shire; Cambridgeshire wth some confinig Townes; Cornewall; Cheshire; Cûberland; Darbyshire; Deuonshire; Dorsetshire; Essex; Gloucester shire wth some confining Townes; Hartforde shire wth some cöfining Towns; Hamshire; Hereford shire wth some confining Townes; Huntingdon shire; Kent; Lancashire wth some confining Townes; Leicester ↔ Rutland wth some confining Townes; Lincoln shire; Middlesex wth some confinig Townes; Northäptō shire wth some confining Towns; Nottinghä:shire; Northumberland; Norfolke; Oxford shire wth some confining Townes; Somerset; Shropshire wth some confining Towns; Stafford shire; Sussex; Surrey; Suffolke wth some confining Townes; Warwick shire wth some Confining Towns; Worcester shire; Westmerland; Wiltshire.


The 1636 issues have some large tables added, including one of Yorkshire. All the county tables in the third issue, except Essex and Middlesex, have additional lines of figures added, showing distances to London. The plates were later acquired and reworked by Thomas Jenner for republication in 1643 (see 1643).

A Direction for the English traviller. London, Matthew Simmons. 1635, 1636, 1636.


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