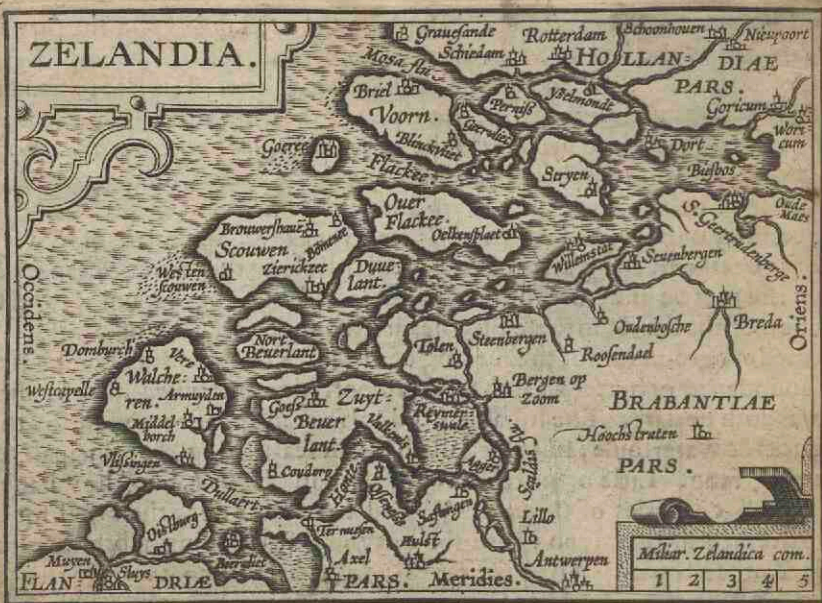




Zelandia

<https://hdl.handle.net/1874/349817>



G. 2. **Blonk**
ZEE-9 (16)

H O L L A N D.

THe earldome of *Holland*, lieth al along on the west syde vpon the *Germanie*, *Ocean*, with the creeks whereof it is almost enuyroned, hauing a great number of waters & riuers every way passing through it. It is said to haue the name of *Holland* by reason that the earth through the vnfirmnes thereof seemeth hollow, others affirme it to haue taken the name of *Holland* of the *Danes* or *Normans* that inuaded it in Anno 837 (hauing before bene called *Batauia*) for that they called it *Gland* after an Ile so named in their northern region.

The country of *Holland* is lyke vnto *Zealand*, very low, the earth soft & weak, much of it beeing by the waters ouerflowen. All along the maine Ocean it hath through the mercie of nature the downes or sand hilles that defend it from the inundation of the sea, & in these downes are woonderful store of conies.

The medow groundes for the feeding of cattel are so exceeding good; as the great aboundance of butter and cheese transported from *Holland* into so many countreyes doth declare. The inhabitants do also reap great comoditie by their wyld ducks & waterfoule, but espetially by their sea-fishing, & principally by there hering-fang. Litle or no corne groweth in *Holland*, but they haue it from the east countries of *Germany*. Wood they haue not, their fuel for the moste parte is turf, their wood both for howsing & shipping is brought from *Norvvay* & other places. The chief citie is *Amsterdam* the howses whereof are built vpon pyles of wood, which are driuen into the warrish ground. The court of *Holand* is kept at the *Hage*, which is no walled towne, howbeit the fairest village in all *Europe*, & situate in the moste pleasant parte of all the countrie. The people are exceeding industrious, & the country ful of townes & cities.