



Trading Networks involved in the Timber Trade: mechanisms and routes (AD 1500-1800)

Germán Jiménez Montes
ForSEAdiscovery meeting
Madrid, 12th January 2015

MA thesis:

“Mercaderes flamencos en Sevilla durante los inicios de la revuelta neerlandesa (1565-1585)”

Universidad de Sevilla, October 2014.

Supervisor: Dr. Manuel F. Fernández Chaves

**Mercaderes flamencos en
Sevilla durante los inicios
de la revuelta neerlandesa
(1565-1585)**

Germán Jiménez Muñoz
Máster en Estudios Históricos Avanzados
Universidad de Sevilla
Septiembre, 2014



MA thesis: “Flemish merchants in Seville during the beginning of the Dutch Revolt (1565-1585)”

Mercaderes flamencos en Sevilla durante los inicios de la revuelta neerlandesa (1565-1585)

German Jantzen Mouton
Máster en Estudios Históricos Avanzados
Universidad de Sevilla
Septiembre, 2014



What?

Commercial relations Andalusia-Flanders.

When?

Consolidation Seville / Decline Antwerp.
Beginning of 80 years war.
European expansion.

Who?

Flemish merchants in Seville.

Where?

Seville
Flanders and America
Atlantic Ocean.



Main questions:

1. Role of Seville in European market and transnational networks.
2. Evolution of Flemish community in Seville during 16th century.



“Vista de Sevilla desde el Aljaraje, 1598” Frans Hogenberg, *Civitates Orbis Terrarum*.



Source

Lawsuit in Real Audiencia de Sevilla between Flemish merchants.

Two previous lawsuits:

- Real Audiencia de Mexico: Payment delays related to a mercury shipment.
- Real Audiencia de Sevilla: inheritance of a Flemish agent in Seville.
- Plus... Continuation of the conflict in Flanders.

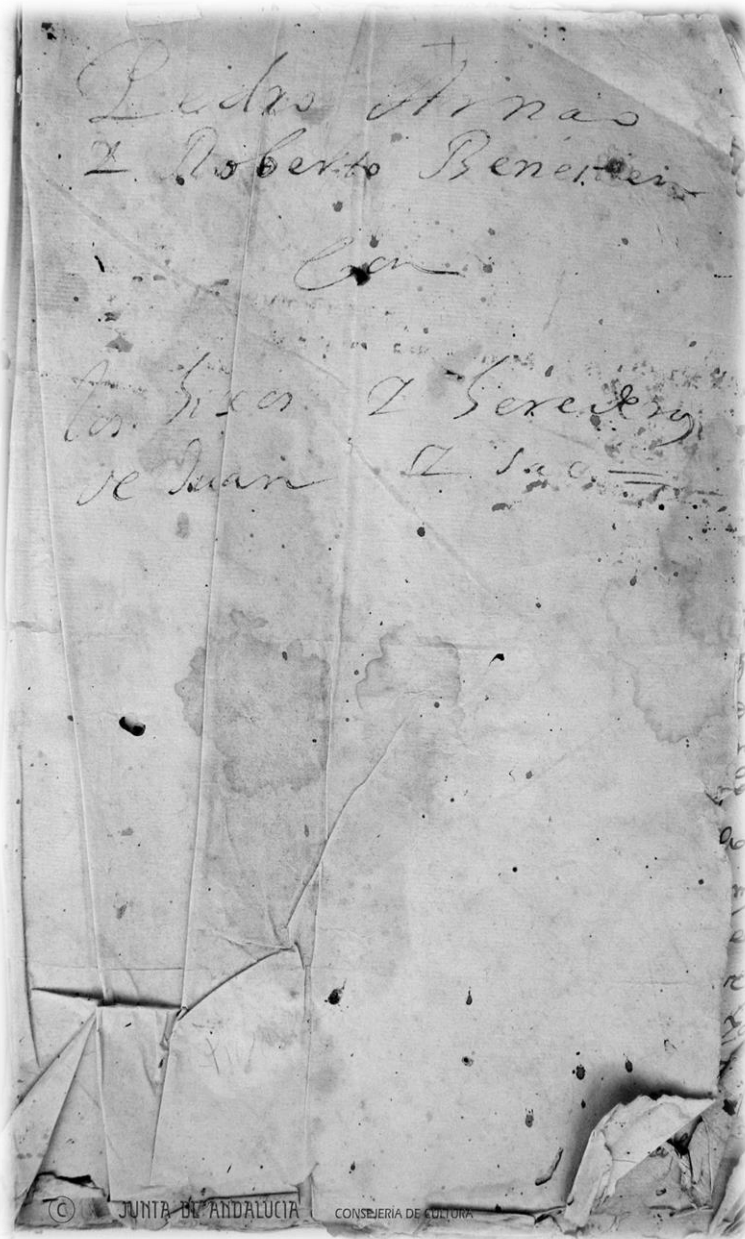
A great variety of documents, e.g.:

- Account book of one Flemish agent in Seville.
- Some letters between Flemish merchants.

We can see...

Activities of two Flemish companies in Seville.

A great list of names of Flemish traders operating in Seville (1565-1585).



“Pedro Arnao y Roberto Benesten con los hijos y herederos de Juan Ysac”. Archivo Histórico Provincial de Sevilla, AAT, XV, 1565-2, leg. 1.039.

Why should we call it Flemish network?

Flemish and transnational network.

Remaining influence of the *naciones castellanas* in Flanders (Bruges).



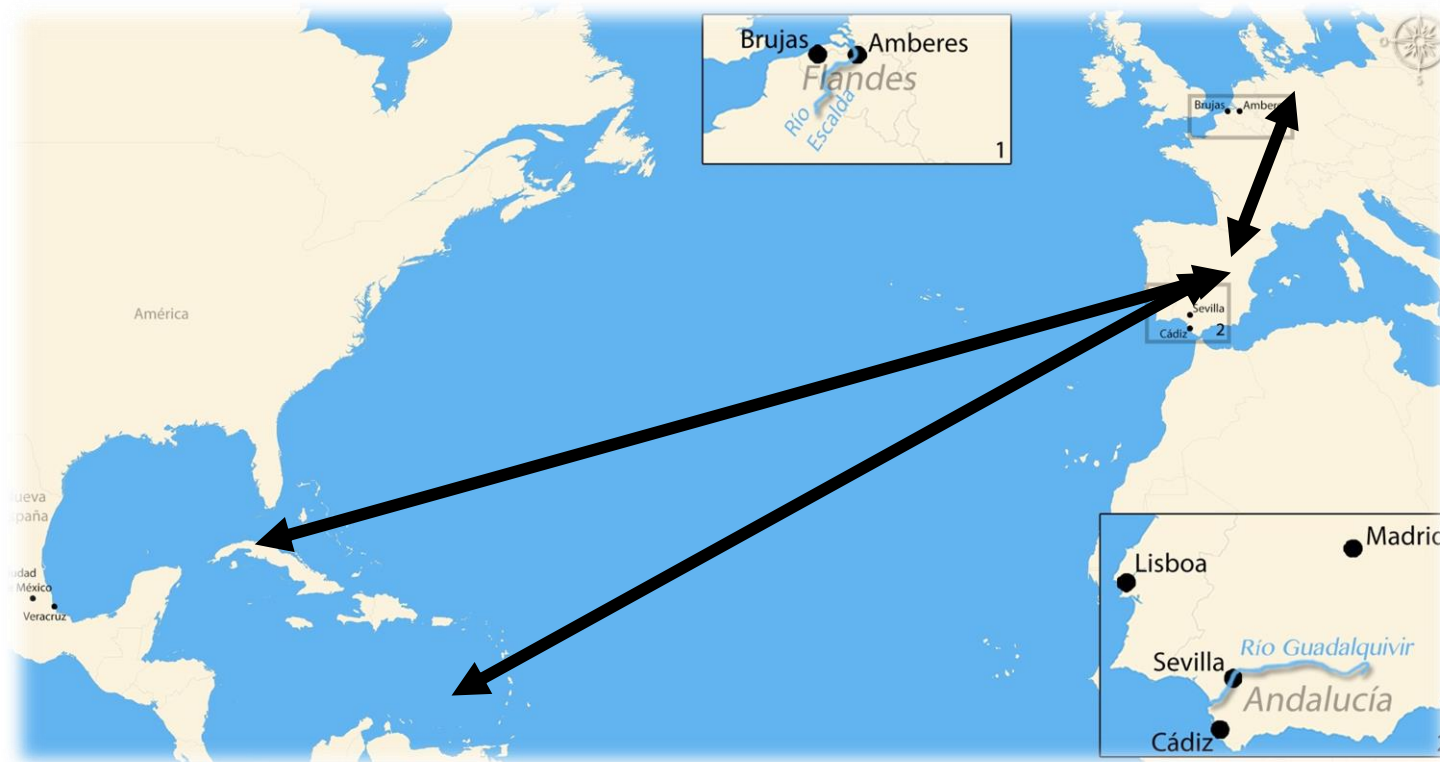
Integrating European economy

European expansion.

Construction of Atlantic economy.

Importance of Seville-Flanders axis in Atlantic economy.

Frequency of exchanges and postal system (15-30 days Seville-Flanders)



Evolution of the Flemish community in Seville



Increasing influence and number: 111 Flemish merchants documented from 1565 to 1585.

First generations of relevant Flemish families in Seville.

Endogamous community and network.

Identity of this merchants? Flemish, Dutch, German?

“Martyrdom of Saint Andrew”, Juan de Roelas for the Flemish chapel in Colegio de Santo Tomás de Aquino (Seville).
520 x 346 cm, Museo de Bellas Artes de Sevilla.



What's next?

How did Northern merchant networks contribute in the timber supply for Iberian colonial project?

Focus on an Iberian-Dutch/Flemish axis.

Who were the agents involved ca. 1600?

How were they organized? Why?

How did they act in friendly/hostile environments?

What was the role of Amsterdam and Flemish agents in this trade?

How were they connected?

Sources and methodology

Archivo General de Simancas

Notarial records





Trading Networks involved in the Timber Trade: mechanisms and routes (AD 1500-1800)

Germán Jiménez Montes
ForSEAdiscovery meeting
Madrid, 12th January 2015