



**From Gateway of Southern Influences
to 'Creative Hub' in a Global Economy**

A Long-Term View of Antwerp

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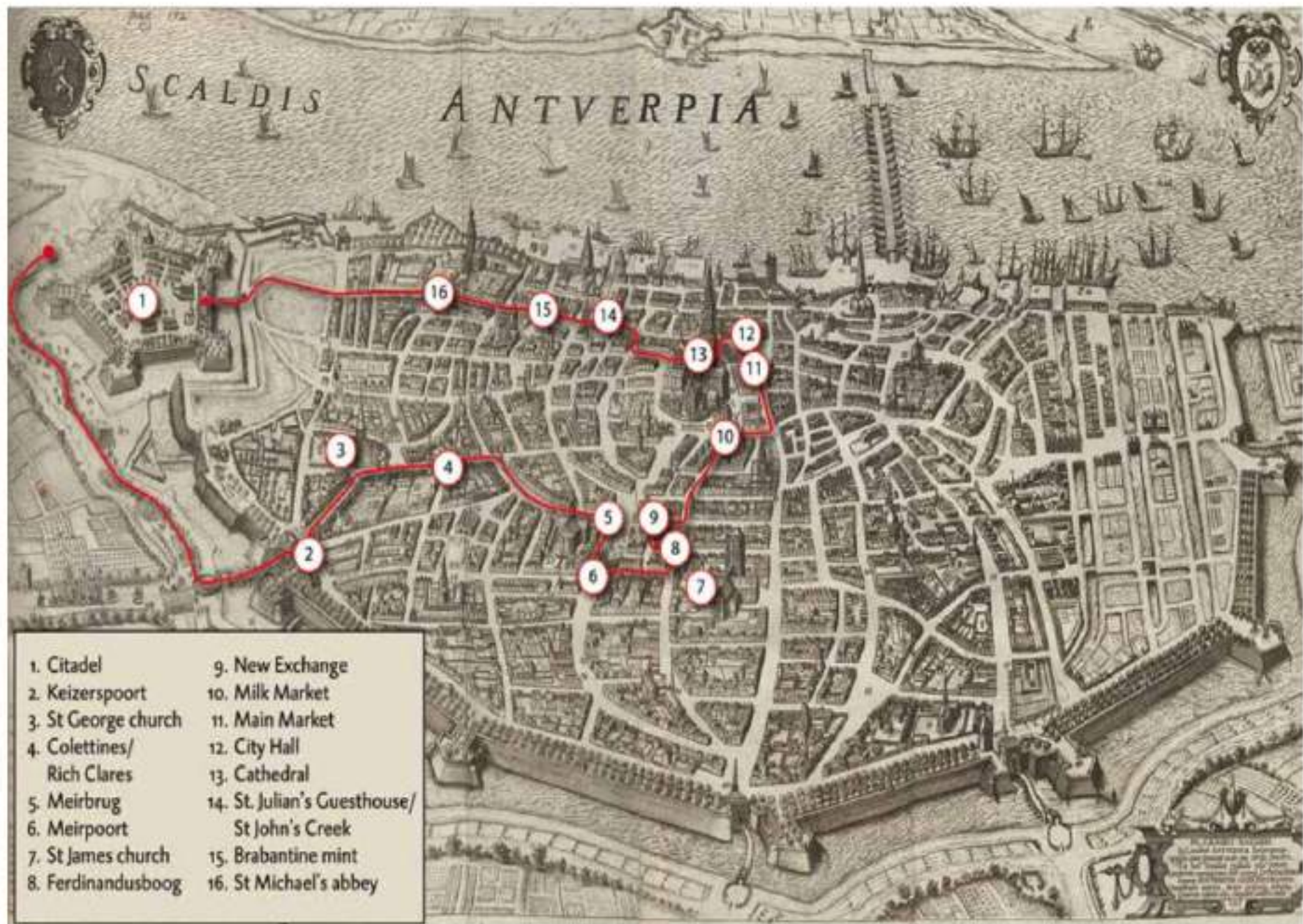




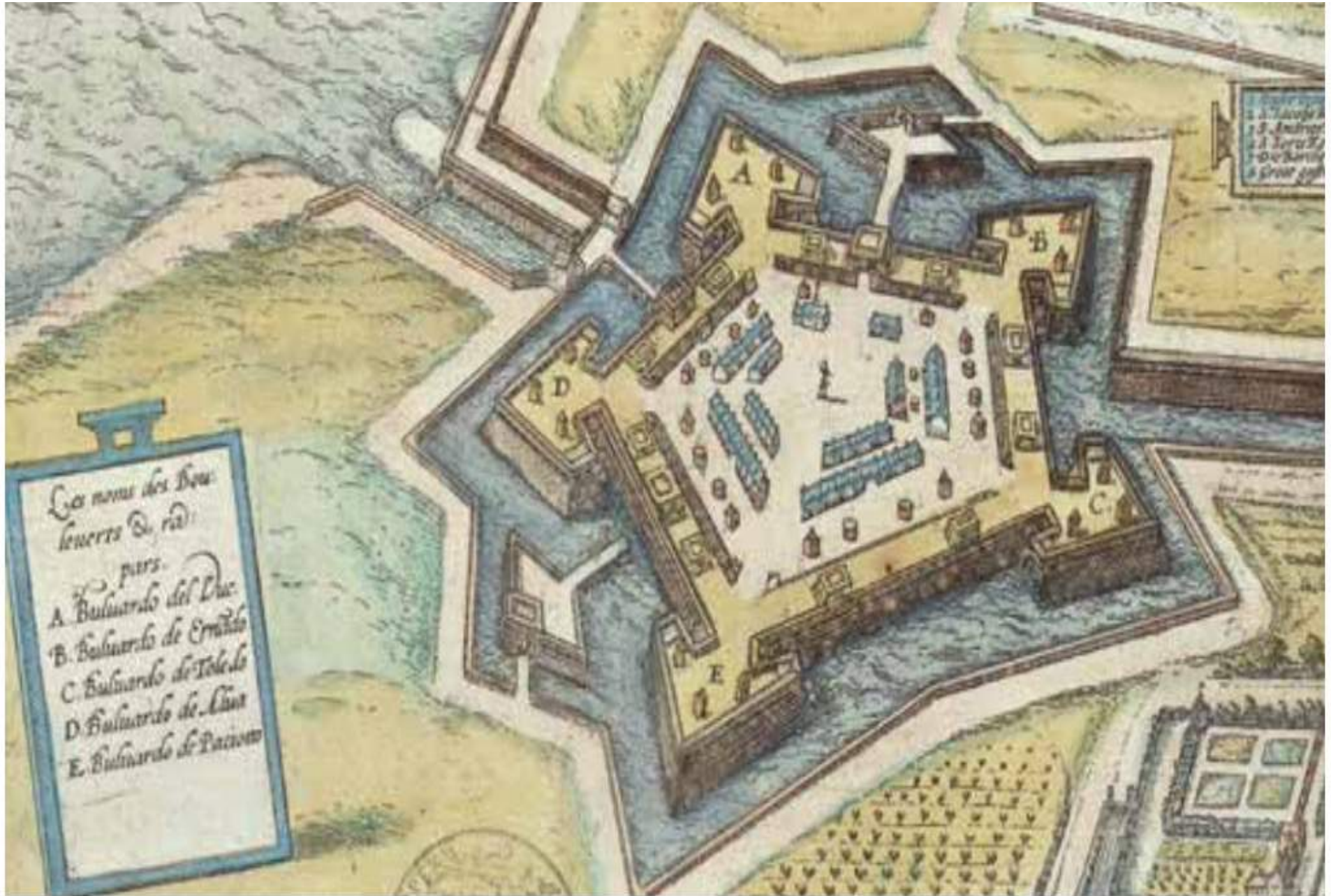
Peter Snayers, Joyous Entry of Ferdinand, c. 1635 –
MAS collection



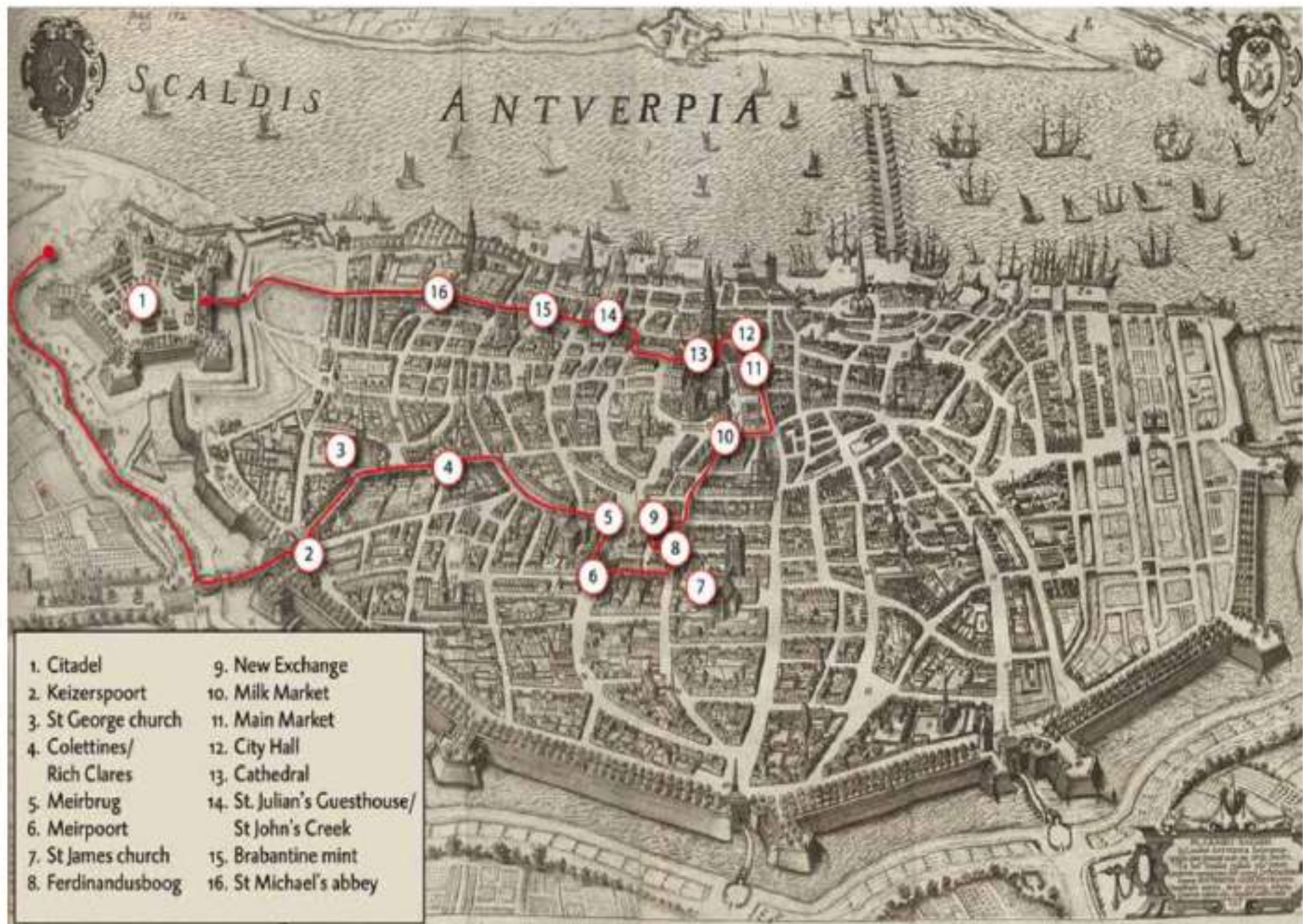
Sketch of the front of the triumphal arch of Cardinal-Infant Ferdinand, by a design of P.P. Rubens, c. 1635 – *Rubenshuis collection*



The route taken by Cardinal-infant Ferdinand through Antwerp in 1635. Engraving from J.C. Gevartius (Gevaerts), *Pompa introitus Ferdinandi*, Antwerp, 1642.



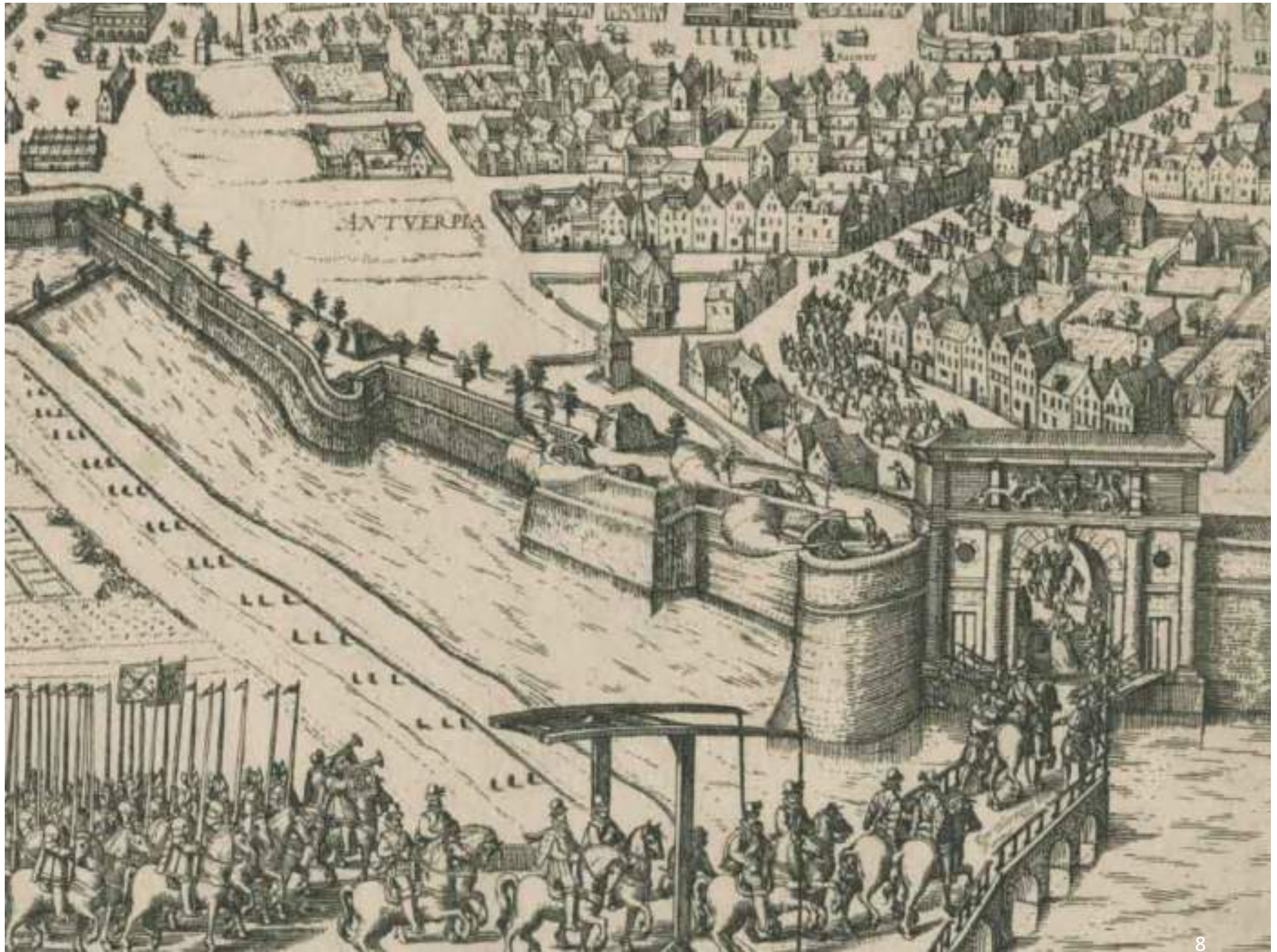
A bird's eye view of the citadel, by Frans Hogenberg, 1572
– Collection City Archives Antwerp



The route taken by Cardinal-infant Ferdinand through Antwerp in 1635. Engraving from J.C. Gevartius (Gevaerts), *Pompa introitus Ferdinandi*, Antwerp, 1642.



Denijs van Alsloot, *Carnival on the Ramparts outside the Kipdorp Gate*, ca. 1620. Notice the double row of trees on top of the ramparts.

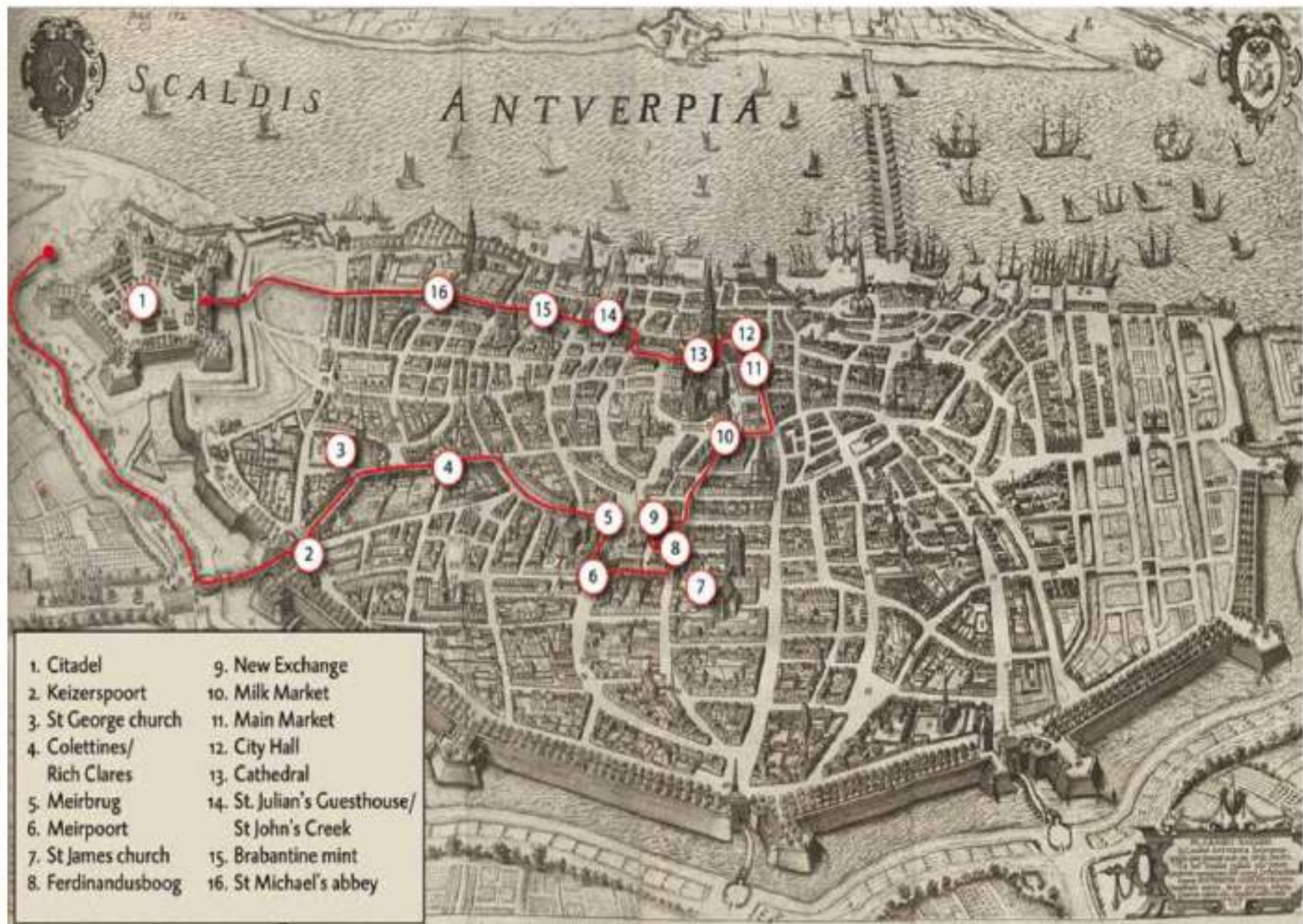




Picture of the Keizerspoort, right before it was demolished
in the 1860s – *Collection City Archives Antwerp*



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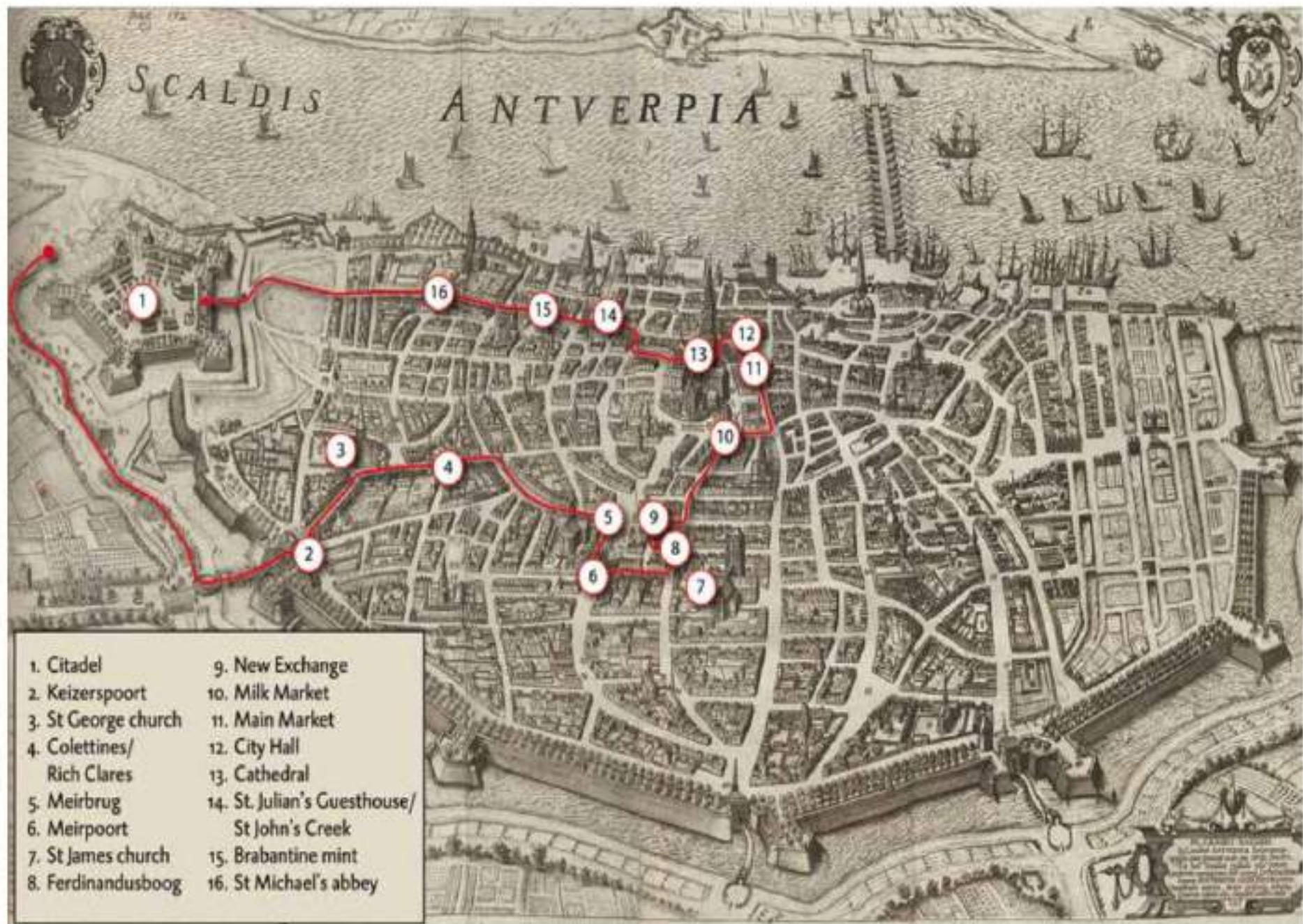
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The New Exchange, built 1531-1533 –
Collection State Archives Belgium



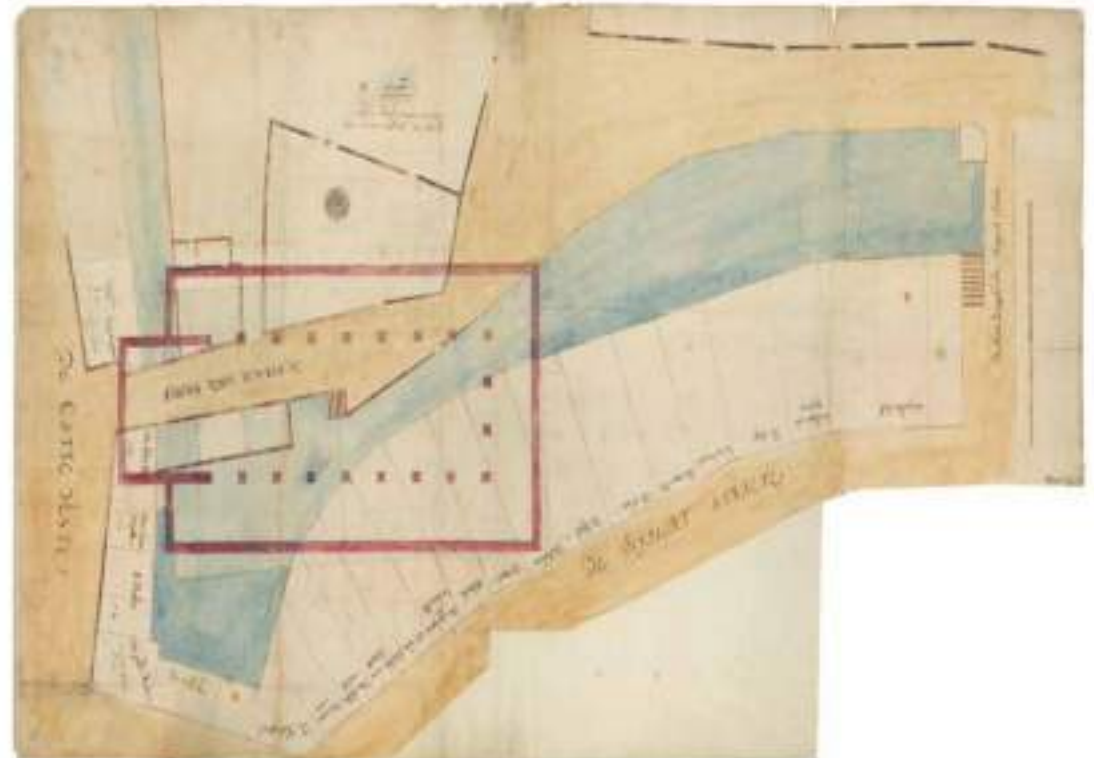
The New City Hall, built 1560-1565 –
Collection State Archives Belgium



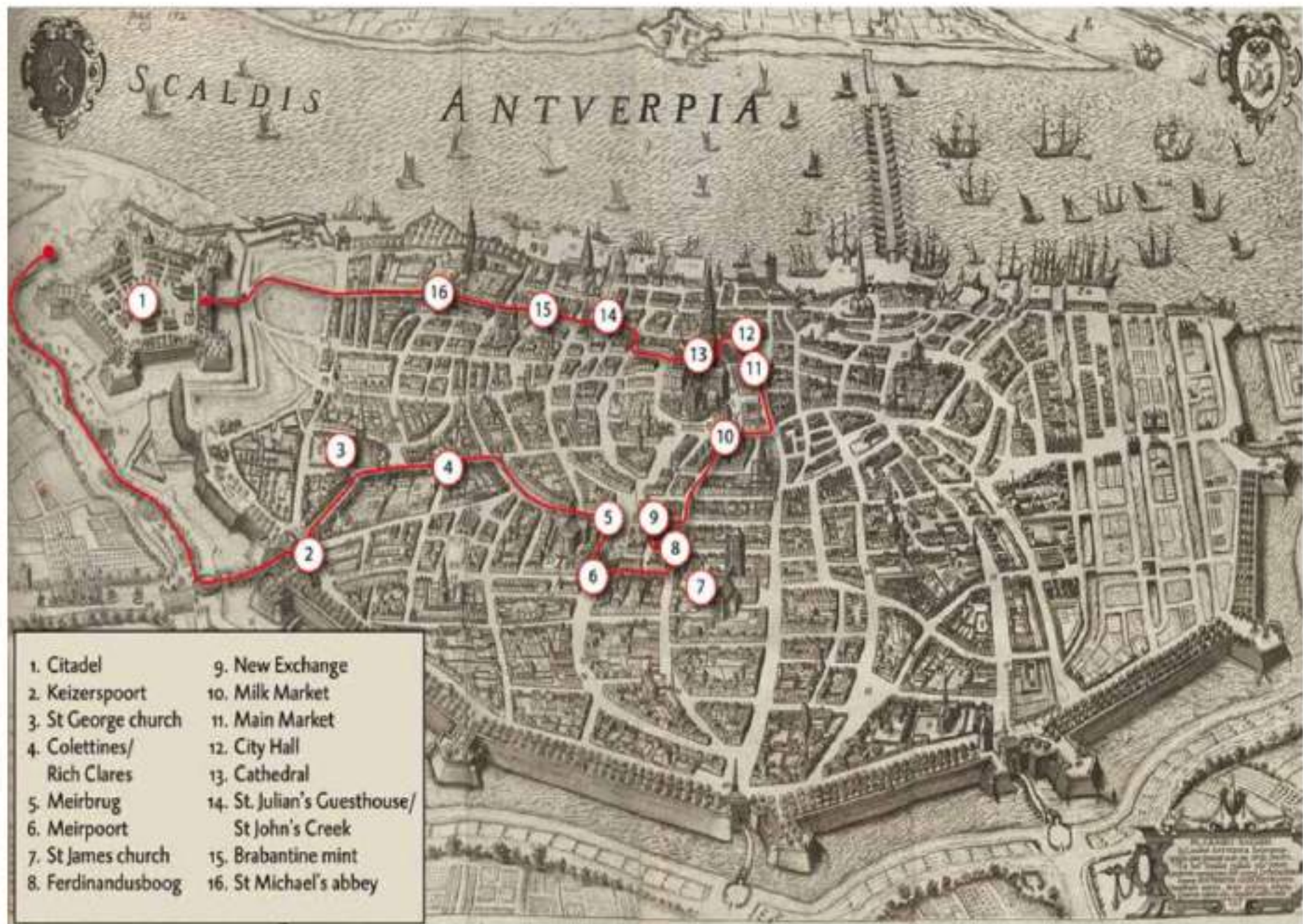
The route taken by Cardinal-infant Ferdinand through Antwerp in 1635. Engraving from J.C. Gevartius (Gevaerts), *Pompa introitus Ferdinandi*, Antwerp, 1642.



The New Jesuit church, built 1615-1621 –
Collection Dyrham, Gloucestershire



Anonymous, plan showing the siting of the new Jesuit Church across the Korse Rui (Short Ditch), ca. 1615



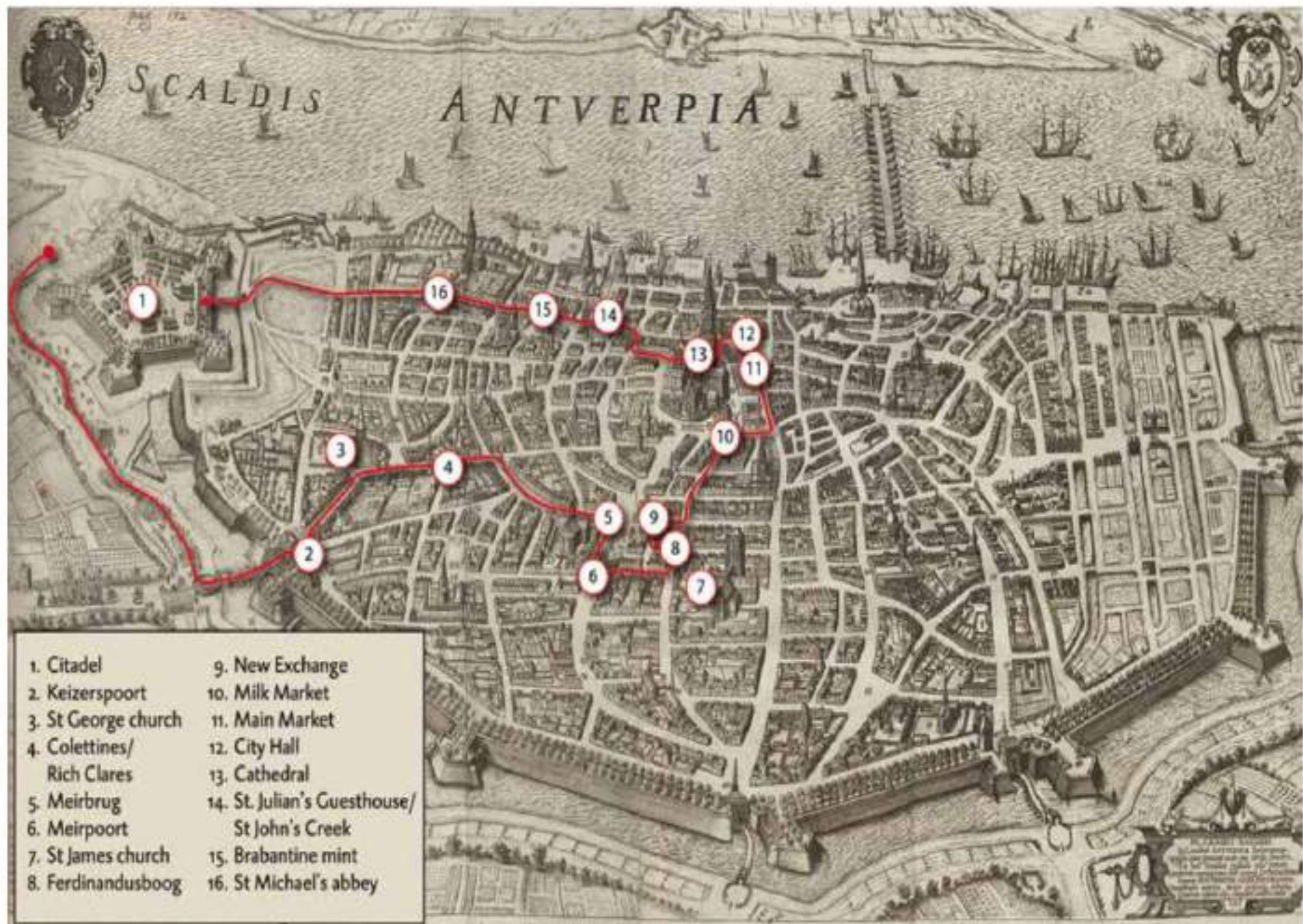
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Etchings by Rubens from
Palazzi di Genova
Antwerp, 1622



The “Nieuwstad” redesigned by Gilbert Van
Schoonbeke around 1550 – *Collection City*
Archives Antwerp



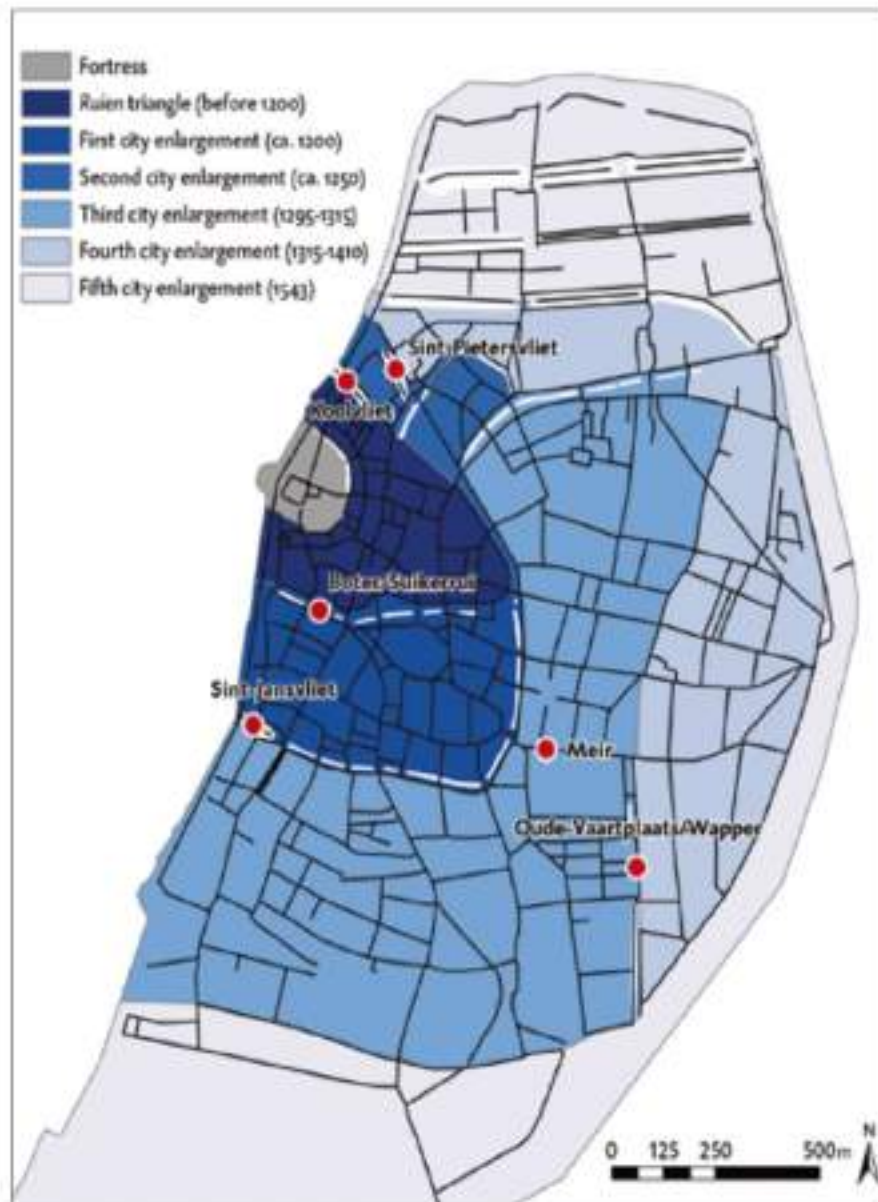
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Etchings of the Rubenshouse by Jacobus Harrewijn, 1692 –
Rubenshuis Collection



Detail of map Antwerpia Mercatorum Emporium, c. 1521
– *Collection Plantin-Moretus Antwerp*



Modern reconstruction of the medieval and sixteenth-century enlargements.

→ The Antwerp Wharf with its crane in Benedictus de Opiitiis, *Unio pro co[n]servatio[n]e rei publice*, published in Antwerp in 1515.





Map of the Scheldt, Antwerp version, ca. 1500: fragment Antwerp.



The three agricultural regions surrounding Antwerp on the so-called Cabinet map of Ferraris, ca. 1777. Above the polders near Gorderen and Kalko, Middle the inland-Flemish agricultural system near Kruibeke, Bazel and Hemiksem, below the Campine region near Schoten and 's-Gravenwezel.



Fragment of an anonymous view of the waterfront of Antwerp, ca. 1520-1540.



Hans Holbein the Younger, *Portrait of Thomas More*, 1527



Hans Holbein the Younger, *Portrait of Desiderius Erasmus of Rotterdam with Renaissance Pilaster*, 1523

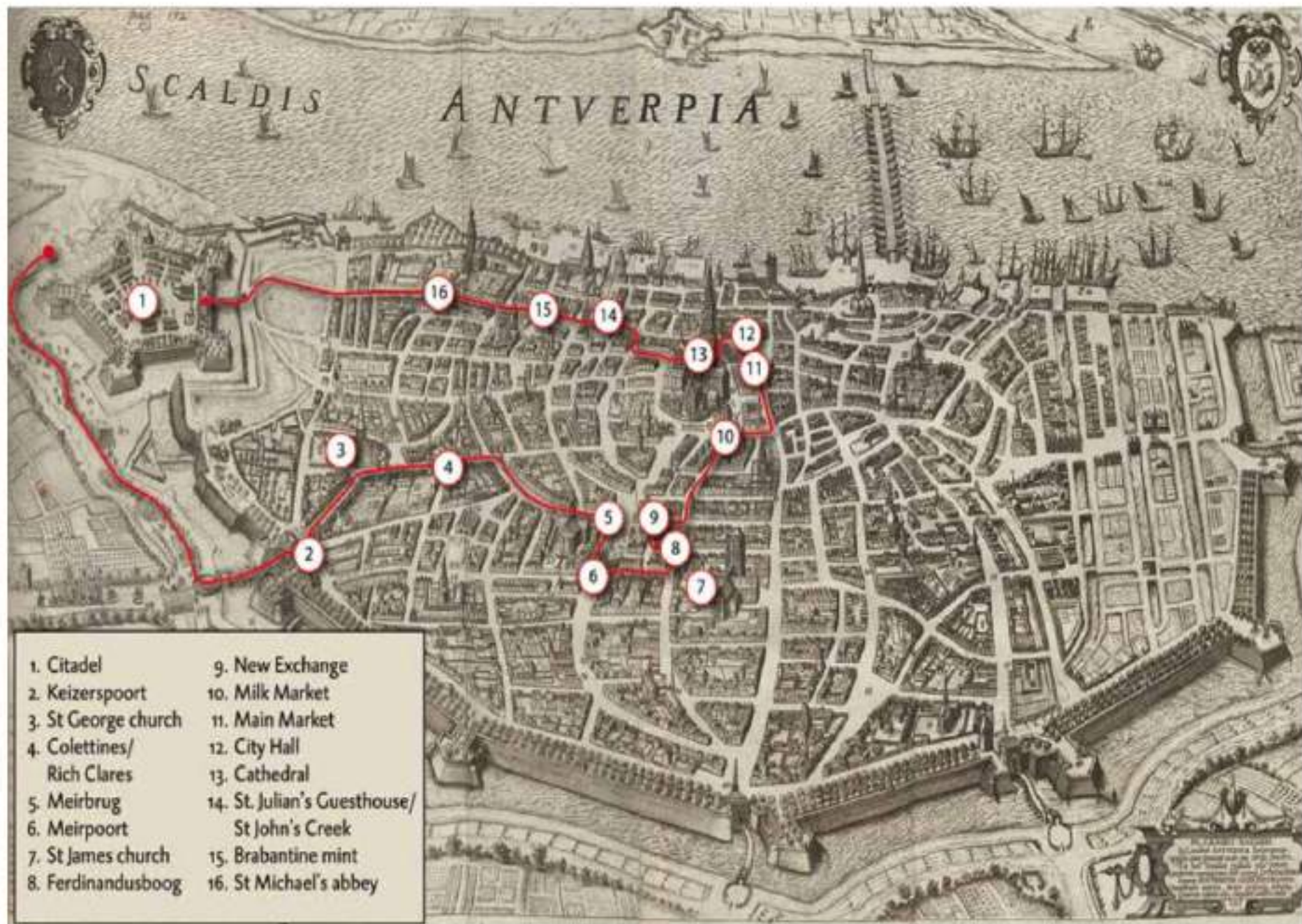


Frans Francken II, a painted luxury cabinet and the interior of an Antwerp luxury collector, c.1620 – *Rockox house collections*



View of the surroundings of Antwerp. From Petrus Kasius, *La Germania illustrata: Waavello et exacto cartae geographicae de eorum provinciis vicibus*, Amsterdam, 1611.

The rural retreat of Rubens in Ekeren, c. 1630 –
Rubenshuis Collection



The route taken by Cardinal-infant Ferdinand through Antwerp in 1635. Engraving from J.C. Gevartius (Gevaerts), *Pompa introitus Ferdinandi*, Antwerp, 1642.



Engraving by Theodoor Van Thulden in J.C. Gevartius, *Pompa Introitus Ferdinandi*, Antwerp, 1642.



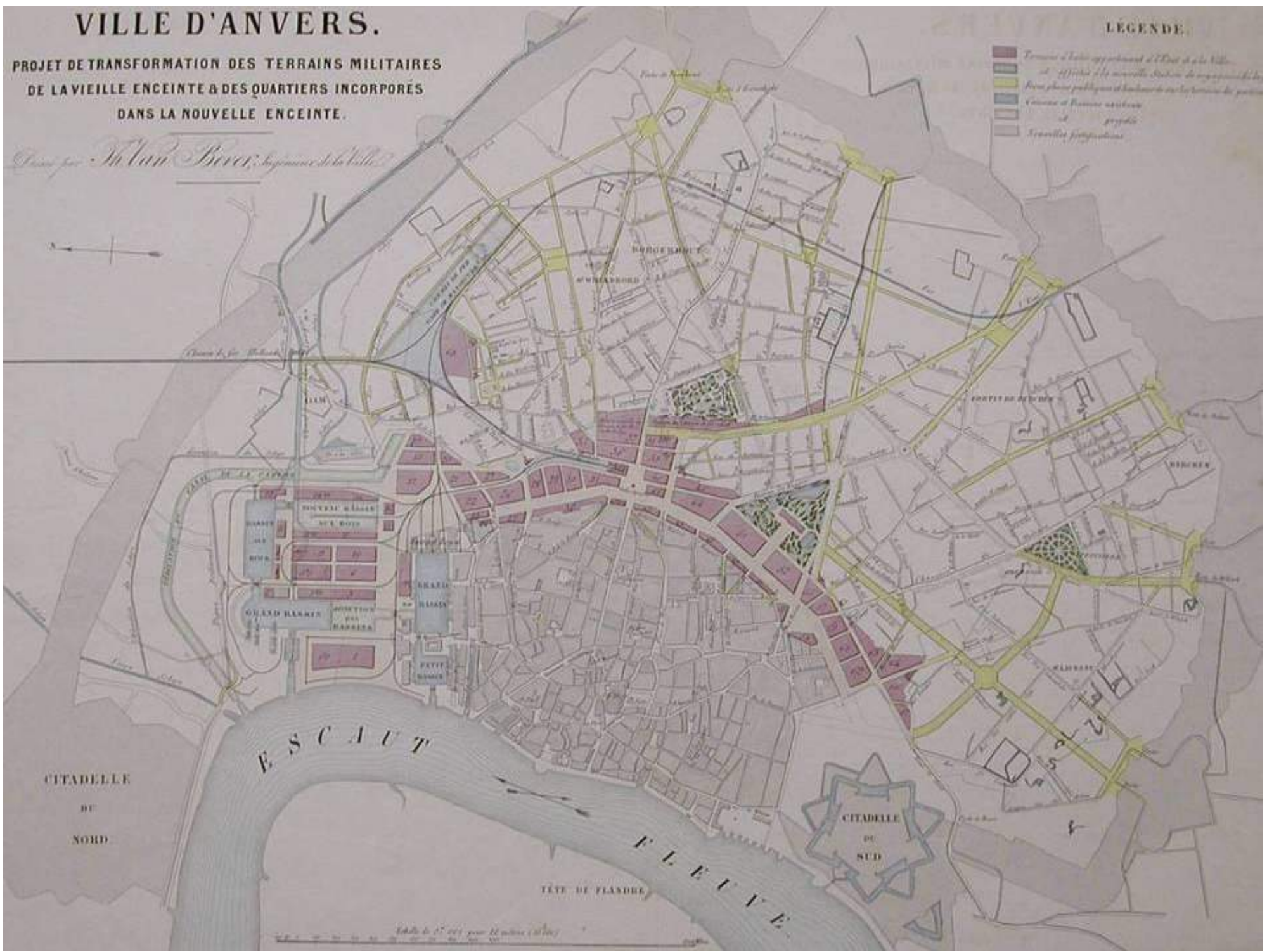
VILLE D'ANVERS.

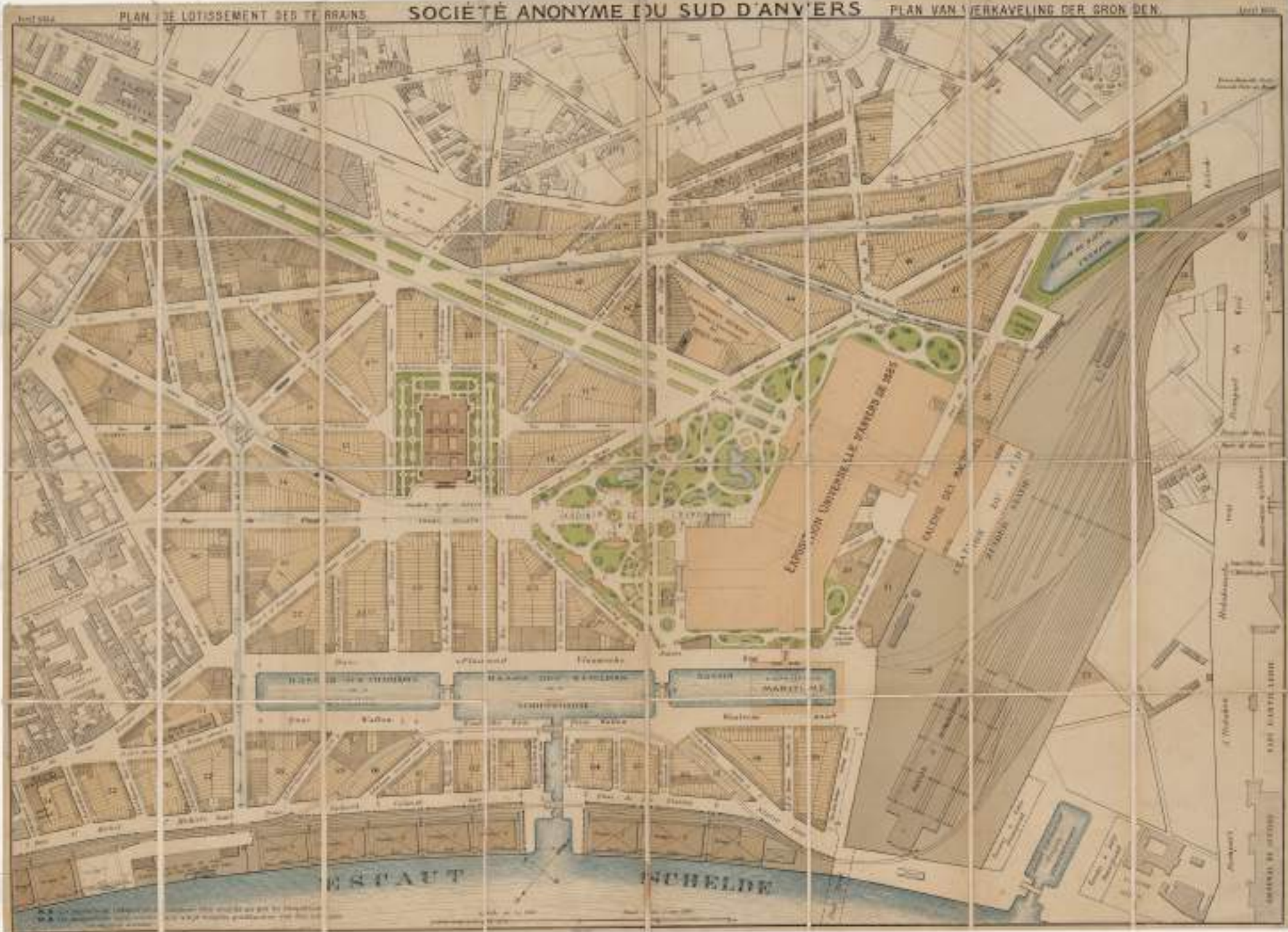
PROJET DE TRANSFORMATION DES TERRAINS MILITAIRES
DE LA VIEILLE ENCEINTE & DES QUARTIERS INCORPORÉS
DANS LA NOUVELLE ENCEINTE.

Plan par M. Van Bever, ingénieur de la ville.

LEGENDE.

- Terrains à bâtir appartenant à l'Etat et à la ville.
- Offices de la nouvelle Station de voyageurs de la
- Voies publiques et bords de la nouvelle enceinte.
- Casernes et places militaires et civiles.
- Terrains réservés.





PLAN DE LOTISSEMENT DES TERRAINS

SOCIÉTÉ ANONYME DU SUD D'ANVERS

PLAN VAN VERKAVELING DER GRONDEN

EXPOSITION INTERNATIONALE

PACIFIC BELGIUM

ESCAUT

SCHELDE

GRAND HOTEL

CASINO

THEATRE

MUSEUM

BOULEVARD

BOULEVARD

BOULEVARD

BOULEVARD

BOULEVARD

BOULEVARD

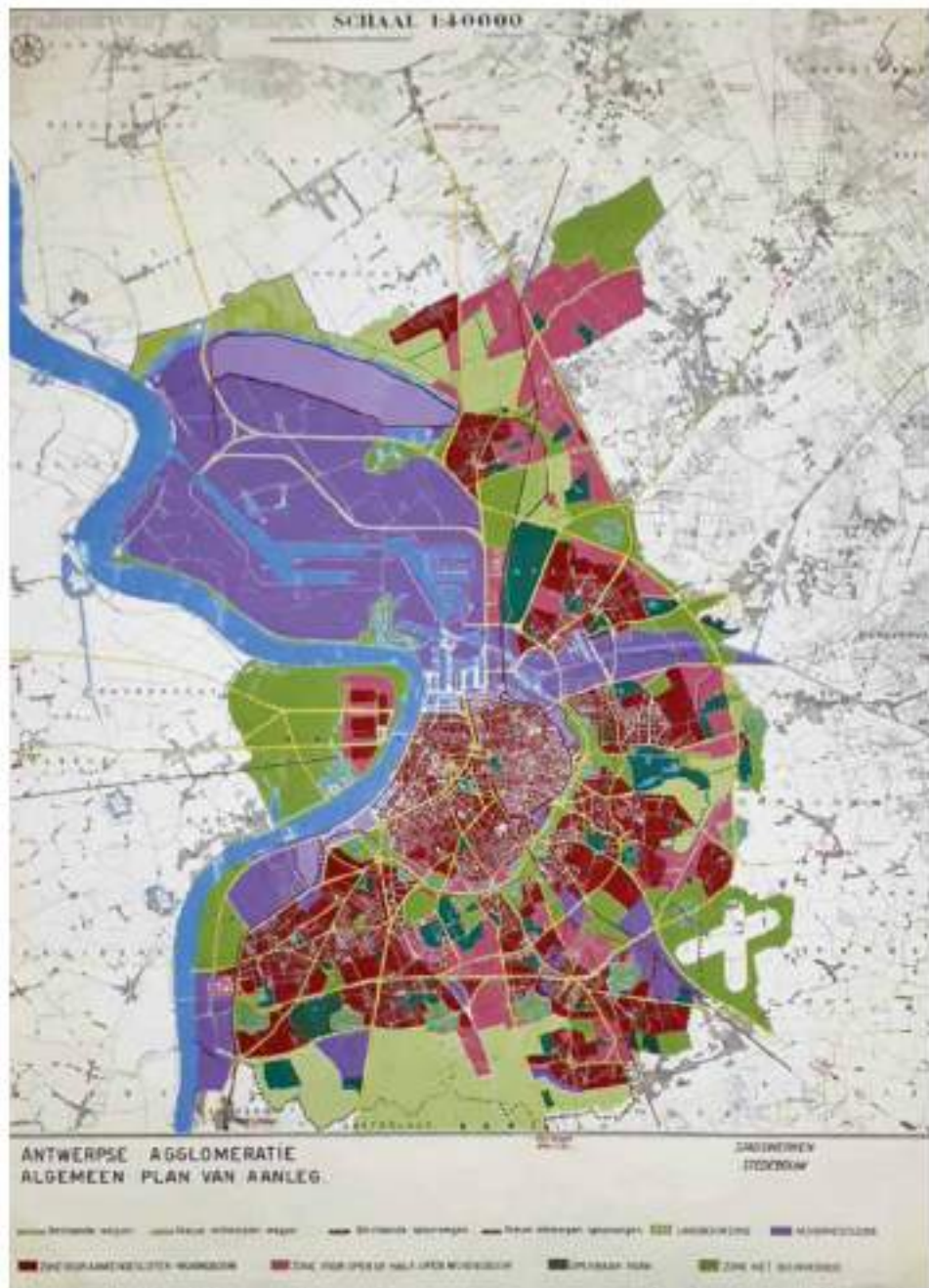
BOULEVARD



The Antwerp docks in 1897.



Housing units before and after the straightening of the Scheldt quays.



Preliminary design of the *General structural masterplan Antwerp*, presumably drawn and hand-coloured in the years 1955/1956. Striking is the "green belt" of agricultural land and the non-construction zones earmarked for parks. Also shown is the never-realized "large Ring" as outer limit of the city and conductor of heavy traffic.



Parking congestion in front of the Rubens House on the Wapper in the 1970s.





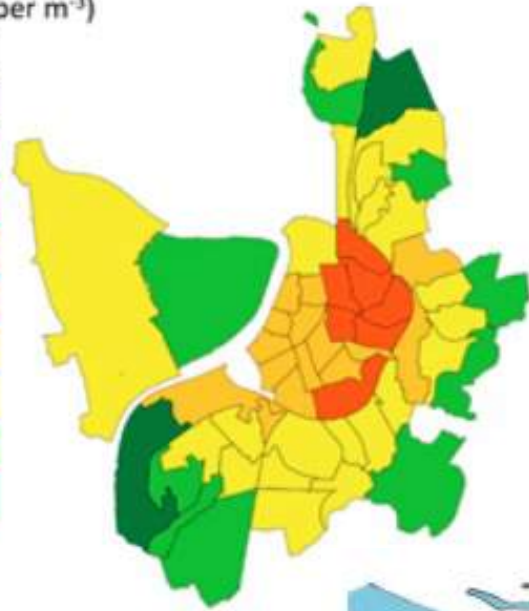
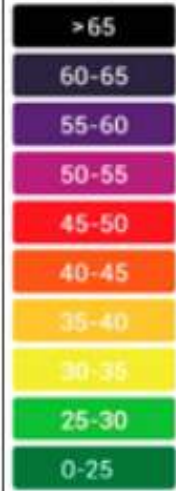
Map from the atlas *Kansarmoede in de grootstad Antwerpen* (Disadvantage in the Metropolis of Antwerp) (1987). In the shaded areas quality of life was demonstrably less and there was a greater clustering of 'risk groups' and 'problem groups'.



Designs by Christian Kieckhefer for the architectural design competition 'City as the Stream', launched in 1940. The aim was to create green spaces along the Scheldt, reopening the Zuiddokken (South Docks) and the building of new residential units on Her Eilande (The Islet). Even opening new museums in the Zuid (South) and firming up the central tourist route right through the old city, were already on the agenda. The architect received the Award of the Order of Architects for his work.



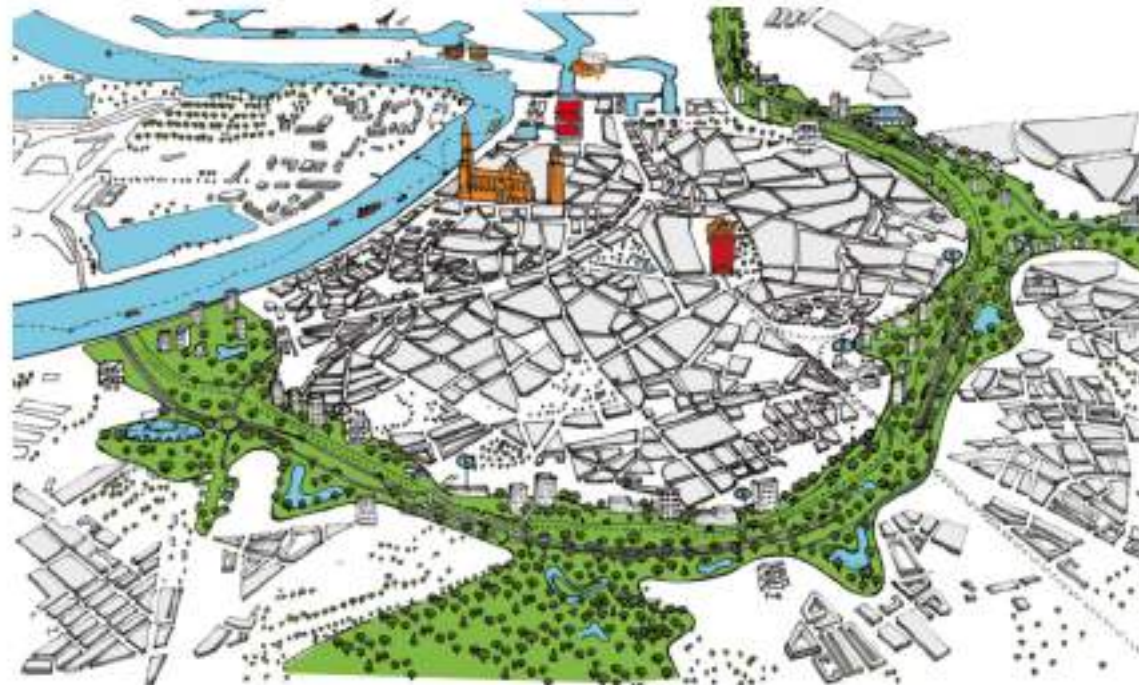
NO₂ concentration
(microgram per m⁻³)



High-rise apartments on the Westkai (West Quay) on the Eilandje (Islet). Photograph 2010.



Luxury apartments on the so-called Nieuwe Zuid (New South). Photographs 2010.



Imaginary scenario by Ringland from 2016, picturing the overbridging of the Amsterper Ring and evoking the Brifal mont green spaces of the past.