The fourth pack of playing cards to feature maps of the fifty-two counties of England and Wales was produced by John Lenthall. It was sold at various shops at various prices and was still on sale in the 1750s. There were two extra cards, one explanatory and the other advertising four other packs issued by Lenthall.
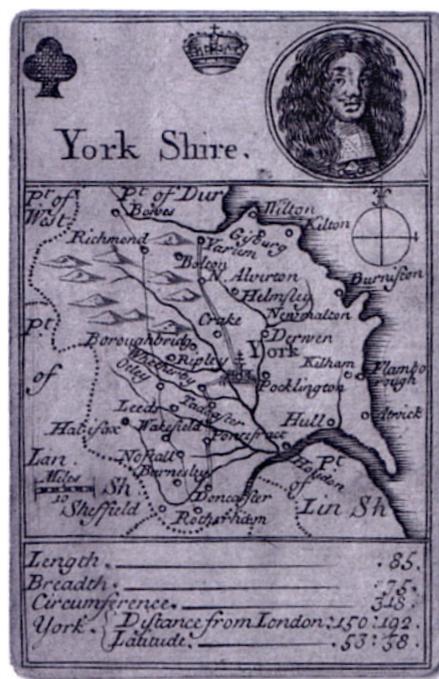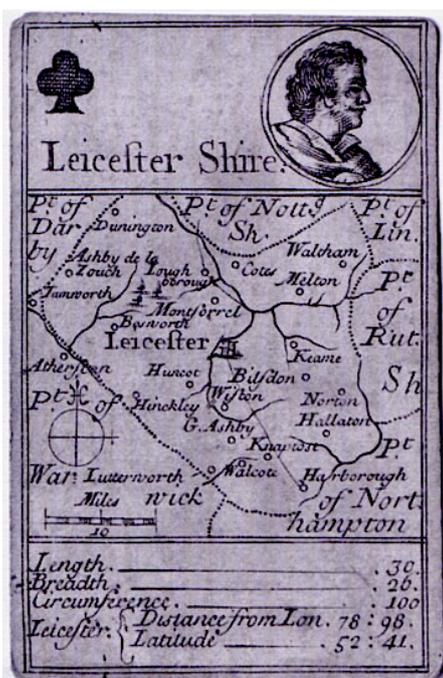
Brian Kentish

The cards, about 55 x 90 mm., were possibly engraved by John Sturt and they are close copies of those in the second edition of Robert Morden's pack of 1676. However, there are some differences in spelling, their suit marks are engraved instead of being stencilled, some maps are in different suits and only a few of the titles are abbreviated:

Flint Shire; Carnarvan Shire; Denbigh Shire; Sussex; Montgomery Shire; Cardigan Shire; Brecknock Shire; Glamorgan Shire; Carmarthen Shire; Surrey; Anglesey; Radnor Shire; Hereford Shire. (Diamonds, I-X & jack, queen, king).
Northampton Shire; Buckingham Shire; Bedford Shire; Cambridg Shire; Norfolk; Suffolk; Essex; Hertford Shire; Kent; Pembrock Shire; Rutland Shire; Huntingdon S.; Midlesex. (Hearts, I-X & jack, queen, king).
Westmorland; Cumberland; Lancaster Shire; Cheshire; Darby Shire; Northumberland; Nottingham Shire; Lincoln Shire; Stafford Shire; Shrop Shire; Leicester Shire; Durham*; York Shire. (Clubs, I-X & jack, queen, king).
Warwick Shire; Oxford Shire; Berk Shire; Merioneth Shire; Hamp Shire*; Wilt Shire; Dorset Shire; Somerset Shire; Devon Shire; Cornwall; Gloucester Shire*; Worcester Sh:; Monmouth Sh:. (Spades, I-X & jack, queen, king).

It would seem that Lenthall was unable to acquire Morden's plates, probably because they had been melted down, and was obliged to have new ones engraved. Two states are known, the first having a plain two line border and the second with a decorated border added. An article by Brian Kentish in *MapForum* (issue 11) makes a good case for the cards being printed from three plates of eighteen cards each: *John Lenthall and his playing card maps of England and Wales (1717)*. An almost complete set of the first state, only lacking three cards, was offered for sale in 2012 by Mr. Kentish: *A Catalogue of county atlases of England and Wales* (item 36). The titles of the three missing cards* have been taken from Donald Hodson's book, which describes and lists them on pages 74/76: *County atlases of the British Isles, volume i.* Welwyn, Tewin Press, 1984. This set was later sold at auction with a hammer price of £13,000 (Dominic Winter, June 2022, lot 120).
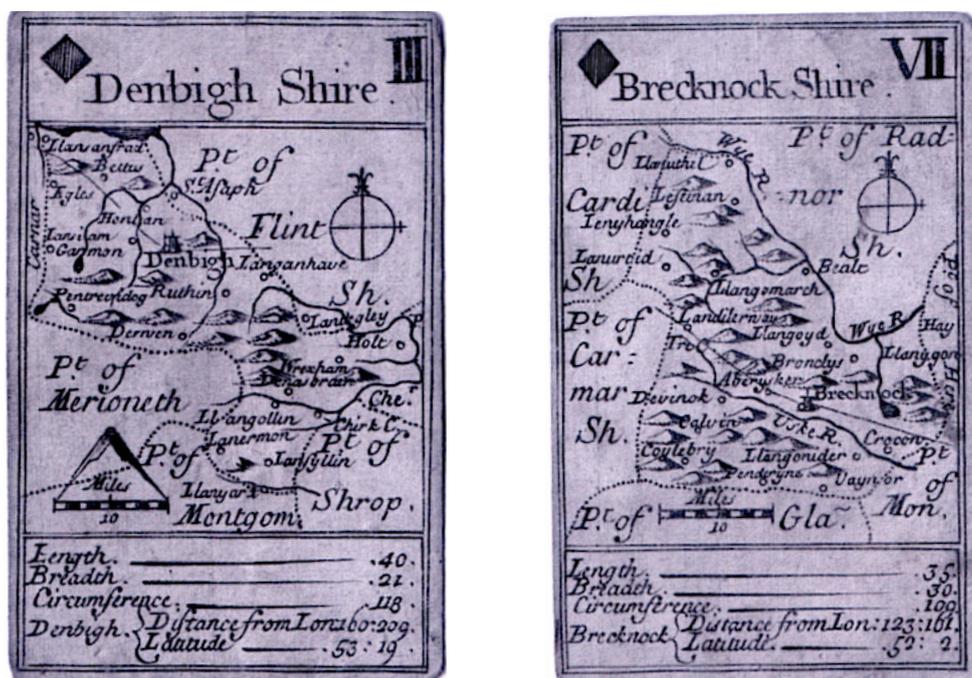
Brian Kentish

Map cards, of the 52 counties of England and Wales. London, John Lenthall, (1717), (1718).

Hodson's description is largely based on a work by Sylvia Mann and David Kingsley: *Playing cards depicting maps of the British Isles, and of English and Welsh counties.* London, Map Collectors' Circle, 1972. On pages 20/1 reference is made to a single Moxon card in Mann's own collection. Since then more information has come to light from a variety of sources. In 1709 Lenthall issued a revised version of John Adair's 1689 map of England, which had been engraved and printed for him in Edinburgh by James Moxon. Lenthall then created his set of *British cards* by dissecting the map into forty-eight playing cards, to which he added four aces which carry text. In 2007 the National Library of Scotland acquired a collection of thirty-seven cards and a full set was later sold at auction with a hammer price of £13,000 (Dominic Winter, June 2022, lot 121).