

With 1809 woodcut pictures, Hartmann Schedel's 1493 *Nuremberg chronicle* is one of the best known of all incunabula. However, its fame lies in the number of its illustrations rather than their quality. In both editions of this large folio volume there was multiple usage of many of the 645 blocks, including the pictures used to portray places.



The much less common quarto version, which was published in Augsburg by Johann Schönsperger, is similarly illustrated but with new woodcuts on a smaller scale. They include a uniform series of twenty-three miniatures, having dimensions of about 140 x 88 mm., with the titles in gothic type above the pictures. These evocative and collectable medieval prints are the forerunners of the early maps described in the next few pages.

They depict sixty-nine cities and countries, but were mostly used haphazardly within and inconsistently between the German and Latin editions. For example, in the 1497 Latin edition one block (see above) was used eight times and for both cities and countries, whereas nine others appear only once. England occurs twice, as in the folio version. *Anglie provincia seu Brittannia* (see below), which is a miniature version of the original, is the same in all three editions but titled *Engellannnd oder Bryttania* in the German ones. The second is titled *Anglia* and is a reduction of the smaller one. It has no top border and was also used for six others including Pisa and Verona. A different block titled *Engelland* was used in both the German editions, with the title central in 1496 but a little to the right in 1500. Although the 1500 edition was the third and last, ambiguous statements about reprints of the world map have led to incorrect references to later ones.





The miniature of Schedel's Ptolemaic world, 145 x 100 mm. (see below) is the only true map. This block alone was reprinted in some editions of Elucidarius' *Von allerhandt geschöpffen gottes*: Augsburg, Hainrich Stainer, 1540, 1543; Frankfurt, heirs of Christian Egenolff, 1580, 1595, 1598; Frankfurt, Vincent Steinmeyer, 1609, 1613, 1621.

*Das Buch der croniken.* Augsburg, Johann Schönsperger, 1496, 1500.

*Liber cronicarum.* Augsburg, Johann Schönsperger, 1497.

