



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## (Westfallia and Hessen) Westvalia Germanie Provincia [with verso] Hassia Germanie Princia

**Stock#:** 87819op  
**Map Maker:** Schedel  
**Date:** 1493  
**Place:** Nuremberg  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 9 x 13.5 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



### Description:

Schedel's imaginary view representing the region of Westfalia in Germany, with a town view in Hesse on the verso, from Schedel's *Nuremberg Chronicle*.

The view is beautifully depicted, representing the region as a princely region with walled cities and high, tall churches. Rivers, trees, mountains, and more are all shown.

The verso of the map shows "Hassia Germanie Princia," or a representation of the German region of Hessen.



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#### The Nuremberg Chronicle

The *Liber Chronicarum*, or Nuremberg Chronicle, is a universal history, with a strong emphasis on geography, also known as a cosmography. The work was published by Anton Koberger on a commission from the merchants Sebald Schreyer and Sebastian Kammermeister. At this time Koberger, the second printer to set up shop in Nuremberg, was at the height of his business, with as many as eighteen presses at work.

For the compilation of the Latin text, which was translated into the vernacular by George Alt, Schedel called on Medieval and Renaissance writers including Bede, Vincent of Beauvais, Martin of Tropau, Flavio Biondo, Bartolomeo Platina, Aeneas Piccolomini, and Jacobus Philippus Foresti de Bergamo. Schedel split the book into parts: Creation, the ages of Adam, Noah, Abraham, and David, the Babylonian Captivity, the life of Christ, the Antichrist, and Judgement Day, followed by a text on Poland, on Europe, and all with a final note on how the book was made. The work contains 1,804 woodcut images executed from 641-3 woodblocks by Michael Wohlgemut (1434-1519) and his stepson Wilhelm Pleydenwurff (1460-1494). Interestingly, Albrecht Durer had worked and learned in the Wohlgemut shop in the late 1480s and Koberger was his godfather.

The Chronicle appeared in 1493, with the first print run taking place between March 16, 1492 and June 12, 1493, for the Latin edition, and to December 23, 1493, for the German translation. A reduced-size (quarto) version of the book, with new illustrations, was published in several editions by Johann Schonsperger, in Augsburg, between 1496 and 1500.

The encyclopedic book includes many portraits and illustrated scenes, including the famous Dance of Death. The geographic content of the Chronicle is also notable. In addition to the double-page Ptolemaic world map and a map of Northern Europe, there are large format views of many cities including Rome, Venice, Paris, Vienna, Florence, Genoa, Salzburg, Krakow, Breslau, Budapest, Prague, Jerusalem, Alexandria, Constantinople, as well as a number of towns in what would become the German Empire.

#### **Detailed Condition:**