

In 1680 Robert Morden issued a world geography entitled *Geography rectified* and printed within the text are sixty-four miniature maps, decorated with small cartouches containing their titles and Morden's signature. Only four are unsigned: France, Sicily, Russia and Monomotapa. His signature varies but the commonest form is 'by Robt. Morden'. Five include his address 'at ye Atlas in Cornhil London' or something similar: Spanish Provinces, Germany, Italy, Denmark and Congo. The signature follows the titles:

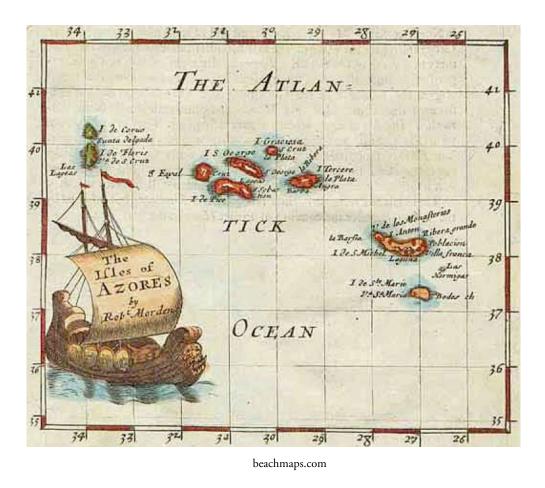
A New Map of ye World.

Europe; England Scotland & Ireland; France; The Vnited Provinces Vulgo Holland; The Spanish Provinces Vulgo Flanders; Germania; Italia; Sicilia; Svisse; Savoy and Piedmont; Spaine; A New Map of Portvgal; Denmark; Sweden and Norway; Poland; Moscovie or Russie; A New Map of Hungaria; Transilvania Moldavia Valachia Bulgaria &; Tartaria in Europe; Grecia Nova Descriptio.

Asia a New Description; The Turkish Empire in Asia; A New Map of the Turkish Empire; Georgia Comania &c,; A New Map of Arabia; A New Map of Persia; A New Description of Tartarie; Empire de Mogol; India on this side Ganges; A New Map of India Beyond Ganges; China a New Description; Japonæ ac Terræ Iessonis Novissima Descriptio; The Maldives and Ceylon Ilands; The Isles of Sonda; The Philipine Isles; The Molucca Ilands &c.

Africa; West Barbarie/East Barbarie (see below & 1660); Ægypt; Biledulgerid Sarra Terra Nigritarum Guine Nova Descriptio; The Abissines or Higher Ethiopin; Congo; The Empire of Monomotapa and ye Coast of Cafres; The Coast of Zanguebar and Aien; The Isles of Azores; The Canarie or Fortvnate Ilands; Cape Verde Ilands; Madagascar or St. Laurance; Maltha. America; The North West Part of America; A New Map of Virginia and Maryland; New England And New York; Carolina Virginia Mary Land & New Iarsey; Mexico or New Spaine; the Western Ilands; Insulæ Iamaicæ; The Island of Barbados; Æstivarum Insulæ ac Barmudas Lat. 32D 25m 3300 miles from London 500 from Roanoak in Virginia; Castilla del Or Gviana Perv The Country of ye Amasones; Chili and Paragay; Brazile A New Description; Terra Magellanica.

Many of the plates are after Pierre Du Val (see 1660), but with longitude based on a London prime meridian. They are also less uniform in size, about 120/35 x 95/115 mm., with their border styles varying. The British Isles map is a close copy of Du Val's, but without the border around the inset of the Shetland Islands, leaving them apparently to the east of the Orkneys (see below). The map of the world measures 156 x 94 mm. but is out of square (see above). A close copy of it, but with fewer names and published by Philip Lea, is described by Rodney W. Shirley in *The Mapping of the world*. The map of Italy had previously appeared in *The Painters voyage of Italy*, London, Thomas Flesher, 1679: originally written in Italian by Giacomo Barri and 'Englished' by William Lodge.



The subsequent history of Morden's plates is pretty complicated and most of them were retouched. Some were replaced with larger ones, not miniatures, and similar additional ones were introduced. As well as three more editions of *Geography rectified*, he issued the maps as a pocket atlas with an undated engraved title-page: *Atlas terrestris* (see below). His maps were also used to illustrate some other works by different publishers.

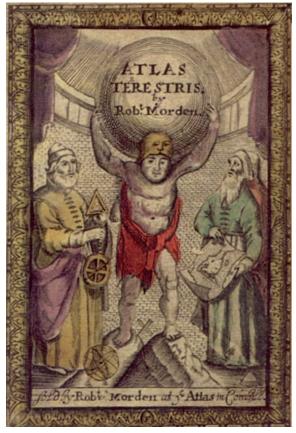
For the 1688 edition of *Geography rectified* the degrees of longitude on the bottom borders were carelessly altered to the old prime meridian of Tenerife (see below) and 'Armenia &' was engraved in front of the title of the Georgia map. Fourteen new but slightly larger ones were added too, making seventy-eight and not seventy-six as per the title-page. Similar small-size replacements were introduced too for Hungary, Germany, Spain, the West Indies, North-west America, New England/New York, Virginia/ Maryland and also Carolina. There were miniature substitutes for just two: Barbados, (which has 'Robert' instead of 'R.') and Bermuda, (which is not in the paging).

Richard Blome acquired the original plates of the last six of these and used them to illustrate his *Present state of his majesties isles and territories in America*, published in London by Dorman Newman in 1687. This work was translated into French and German: the latter not illustrated but *L'Amerique Angloise*, published in Amsterdam by Abraham Wolfgang in 1688, and *Description des isles et terres que l'Angleterre possede en Amerique*, published in Amsterdam by Estienne Roger in 1715, both include small French versions of the maps.



Between 1688 and 1691 the maps were issued folded and without text as an atlas, with page numbers 1/78 added to the plates (see above). Just the four of the continents were likewise issued, in the second edition of 1691 only, of the *Geographical dictionary* of Edmund Bohun published in London by Charles Brome. Then in 1693 all of the maps reappeared complete with numbers, in the text of the third edition of *Geography rectified*.

However, there may well have been an earlier issue of the *Atlas terrestris*. 'Imperfect; wanting the text' is the note in a British Library catalogue entry for one copy of the 1680 edition of *Geography rectified*. Notwithstanding this, and the matching spine lettering of the non-original binding, it is actually an untitled collection of the maps in their first state: printed on plain paper and bound at the left edge. They are prefaced by 'A Catalogue of the Maps in this Book' which is the letterpress page from *Geography rectified* giving the maps' page numbers. In *Atlas terrestris* this became a plate headed 'A Catalouge of Mapps in This Booke'. There are two extra maps: the only known example of *New Mexico by Robt. Morden* (133 x 111 mm.) and an unrelated and much larger one of the English Channel. The likeliest explanation might be that this is a set of proofs for an unrecorded *Atlas terrestris* of about 1685. In autumn of 2001 Tooley Adams & Co. had for sale some of these plain paper, first state maps. *Madagascar or St. Laurance* and ten others relating to America were in contemporary colour, with centre folds and guards.



J.A.L. Franks & Co.

To complicate matters even further, some of Morden's maps were subsequently issued as illustrations in just the first eight editions of Pat Gordon's *Geography anatomiz'd*, London, 1693, 1699, 1702, 1704, 1708, 1711, 1716, 1719. They are folded and without text, with different page numbers, altered to match their position in the book. They were accordingly changed again for the second edition. However, after 1699 they remained the same, but these later editions now had instructions to the bookbinder to place each map before a particular page. Copies of all eight editions have been located and three of the five checked, have some plates missing. A few of the maps used were small ones: Germany, Spain, Scotland, England, Ireland and for 1693 only, Wales. Most though were miniatures: World (Page 1 throughout); Europe (19 in 1693, then 59 from 1699-1719); Sweden & Norway (21 then 61); Muscovy (25 then 73); France (27 then 79); United Provinces and Spanish Provinces (both 38, then omitted from 1699); Poland (49 then 125); Italy (59 then a new and unnumbered one*); Asia (85 then 237); Africa (93 then 293); America (103 then 333).

In the first edition of 1693 a new miniature plate of *Turky in Europe by R. Morden* was introduced (65 then 165), which is sometimes in copies of *Atlas terrestris* too. From 1699 a small map of Italy* replaced the worn miniature original. This is also in the 1700 final edition of *Geography rectified*, although the *Turky in Europe* is not. From 1704, 'Page 86 & 87.' was added in the cartouche at bottom centre of the world map, which had always been blank. A possible explanation is that it was used in another work about 1703.

The alterations to the page numbers on those plates used for Pat Gordon's *Geography anatomiz'd* in 1693 and 1699 (see above) only added to the confusion of the map numbering in the *Atlas terrestris*. Maps 67, 68 & 69 were always wrongly numbered 68, 69 & 70. However, the changes do help with the dating of the later issues. This pocket world atlas of Robert Morden is a rare item today. He died in 1703.

Geography rectified. London, Robert Morden, 1680, 1688, 1693, 1700. *Atlas terrestris.* London, Robert Morden, (1685), (1690), (1695). (1700).

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