

The Works of Geoffrey Chaucer (Hammersmith: Printed by William Morris at the Kelmscott Press, 1896).

William Morris's edition of Chaucer's works, printed at his Kelmscott Press, features illustrations by artist Edward Burne-Jones and typefaces designed by Morris himself. "An A.B.C. of Geoffrey Chaucer" is a translation, attributed to Chaucer, of a French poem addressed to the Virgin Mary.

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The Rare Books Collection emphasis is American, Irish, and British authors of the eighteenth through twenty-first centuries (including African-American literature); and cultural and social history, with particular emphasis on North Carolina history and regional Americana. The collection also supports study in the area of the book arts, including papermaking, marbling, and the history of printing.

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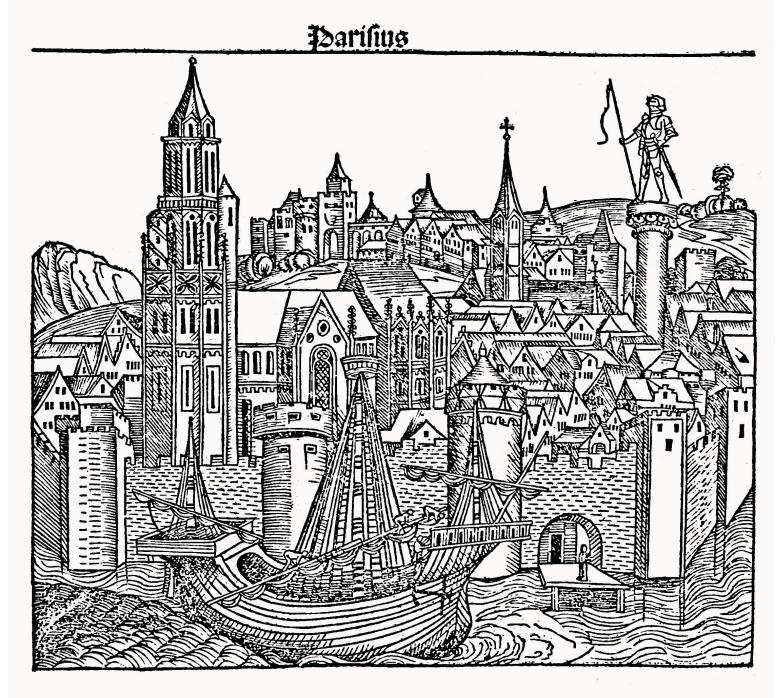
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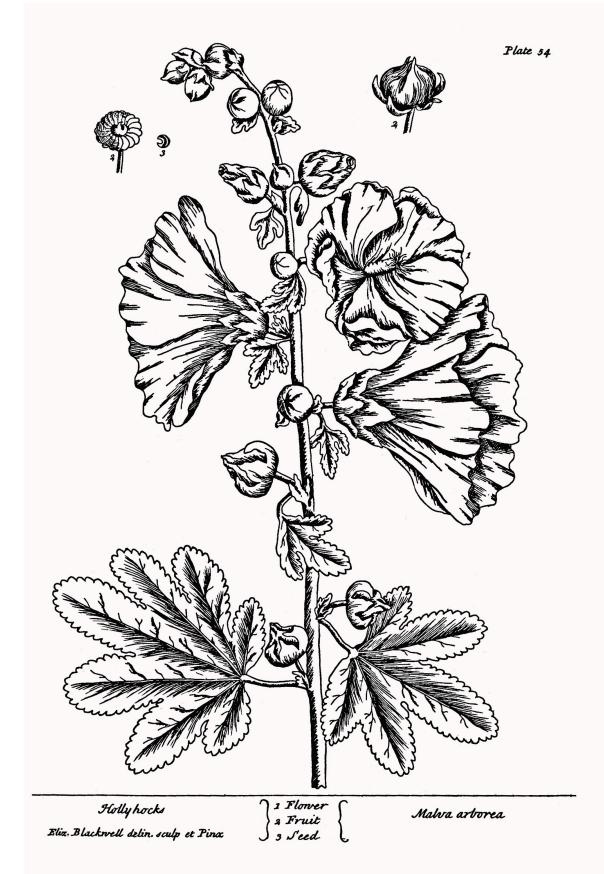
The Most Ancient and Famous History of the Renowned Prince Arthur, King of Britaine, by Thomas Malory (London: William Stansby, 1634)

The frontispiece to the 1634 English translation of Malory's text shows King Arthur and his knights around a doughnut-shaped Round Table.



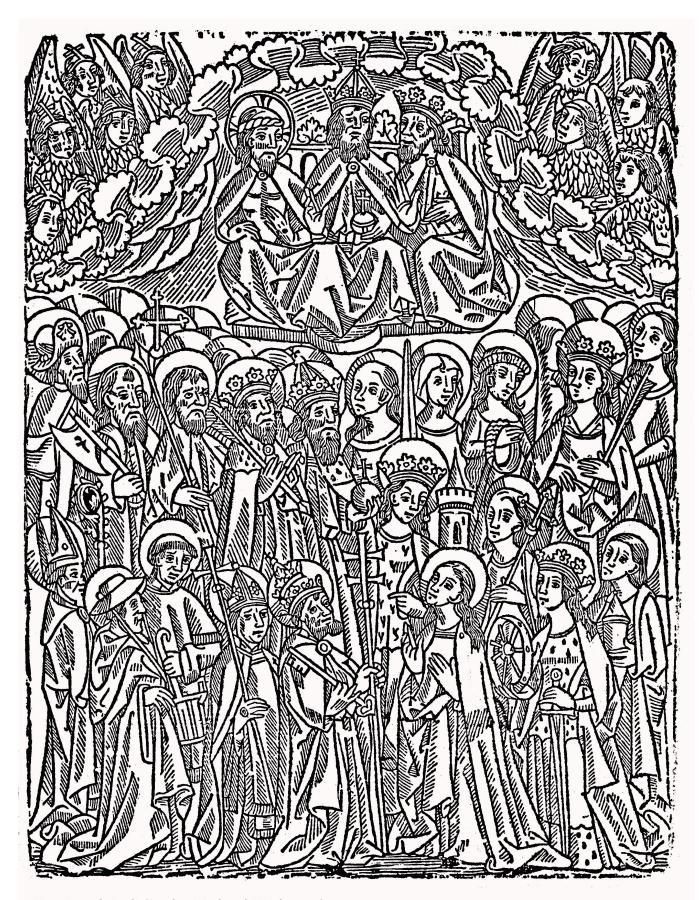
Liber Chronicarum, by Hartmann Schedel (Nuremberg: Anton Koberger, 1493).

This illustration, one of many woodcuts from the famous Nuremberg Chronicle, represents medieval Paris.



A Curious Herbal, by Elizabeth Blackwell (London: Printed for John Nourse, 1739)

From Blackwell's description: "Hollyhocks. Malva hortensis. This plant grows over six or seven Foot high; the Leaves are a light green and the Flowers a pale Red."



Nova Legende Anglie (London: Wynkyn deWorde, 1516).

This woodcut frontispiece from deWorde's collection of English saints' lives depicts the holy trinity with angels and a variety of saints.



La Venetia Edificata, by Giulio Strozzi, illustrations by Francesco Cortesi (Venice: Antonio Pinelli, 1624).

In this frontispiece to Canto 14 of Strozzi's epic poem on the origins of Venice, a helpful Merlin provides assistance to the Venetians.



Serge Lifar: Sixteen Drawings in Black and White, by Eileen Mayo (London: Cyril W. Beaumont, 1928).

Plate 6 depicts dancer Serge Lifar in the ballet "La Pastorale," which was choreographed by the young George Balanchine for Serge Diaghilev's Ballets Russes.