Sebastian Münster Encyclopedia Article

Sebastian Münster

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1488-1552

German cartographer, cosmographer, and Hebrew scholar whose work revived European interest in geography. Professor of Hebrew at the University of Basel from 1527, he translated a number of ancient works, including Ptolemy's *Geographia*. His description of the world, published as *Cosmographia* in 1544, was widely read. It was translated into five languages and printed in forty editions. His map of the New World was the most widely used for a number of years.