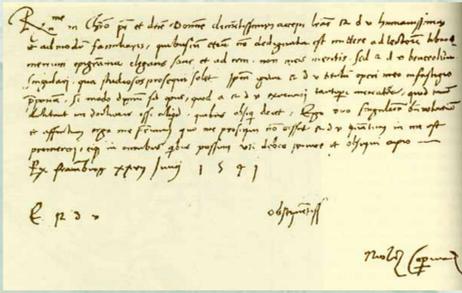
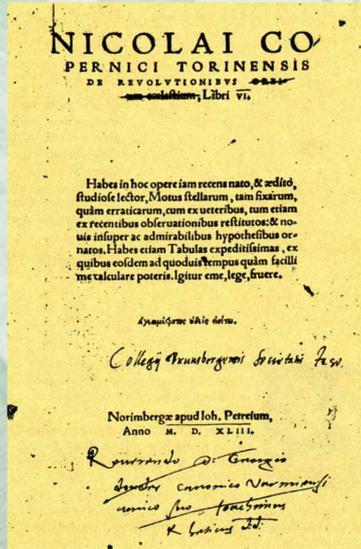


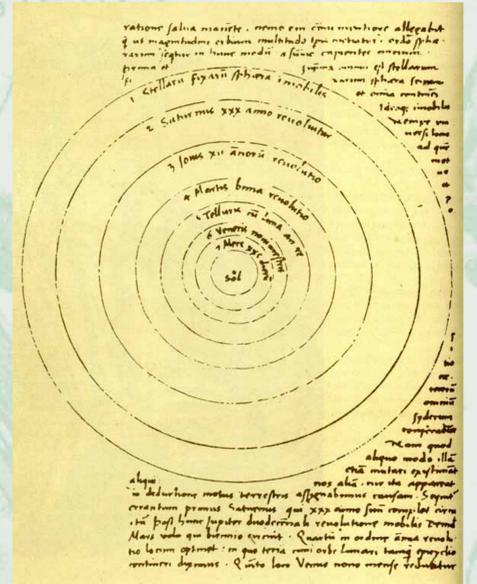
Nicolaus Copernicus, *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium*, Nuremberg 1543; the first issue was published in the printing shop of Hans Petreius



Letter from Nicolaus Copernicus to Jan Dantyszek, diplomat, bishop, but also poet, with thanks for an epigram, 27 April 1541



Nicolaus Copernicus, *De revolutionibus*, title page with the words "orbium coelestium" crossed out



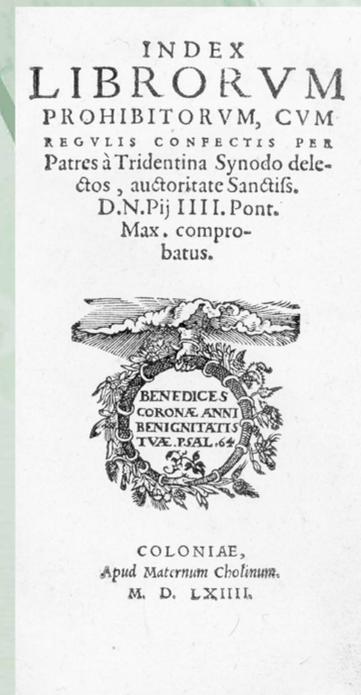
Nicolaus Copernicus, *De revolutionibus*, manuscript page with a drawing of the planetary system

LEGACY

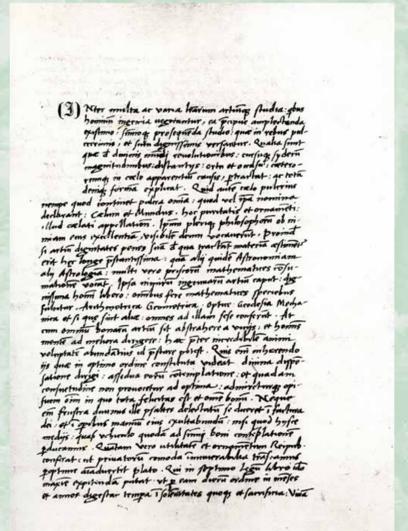
Copernicus' manuscripts can be found all over Europe. Some of them, especially those related to his studies, are in Italy. Many manuscripts and books with his handwritten comments were looted as spoils of war during the Swedish Deluge in the 17th century. Currently they are in the possession of the Uppsala University Library (Carolina Rediviva) and the National Archives of Sweden in Stockholm.

Some manuscripts are in Poland, including the most important one, i.e. the manuscript of *De revolutionibus*. It is presumed that Copernicus kept it until his death. The next owner was Tiedeman Giese (1480–1550), bishop of Chełmno and Copernicus' friend, who then gave it to Rheticus (1514–1574), professor of mathematics in Wittenberg, cartographer and physician. Rheticus had already popularized the work of Copernicus, and made efforts to have it published in a printing shop in Nuremberg. Then the manuscript travelled around Europe, until it was listed on the *Index of Prohibited Books*. During the subsequent 60 years it remained hidden in an unidentified place. In 1677 the manuscript was found in a library owned by Otto Wenzel von Nostitz (1608–1665), a collector and founder of the famous library in Prague. In 1774 the manuscript was signed with an ornamental ex libris.

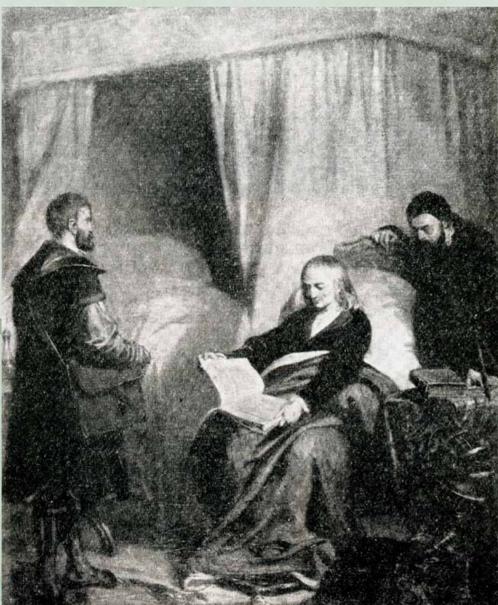
The manuscript of *De revolutionibus* comprises 213 sheets (426 pages), 9 pages are blank. In 1945–1956, after the collection became state-owned, the manuscript was kept in the Library of the National Museum in Prague. Finally, in 1956 it was made over to the Jagiellonian Library of the University in Kraków where it has been kept until today. *De revolutionibus* has been entered in the UNESCO list "Memory of the World".



Index Librorum Prohibitorum (List of Prohibited Books), title page, after 24 March 1654, *De Revolutionibus* was included in the Index after 1616



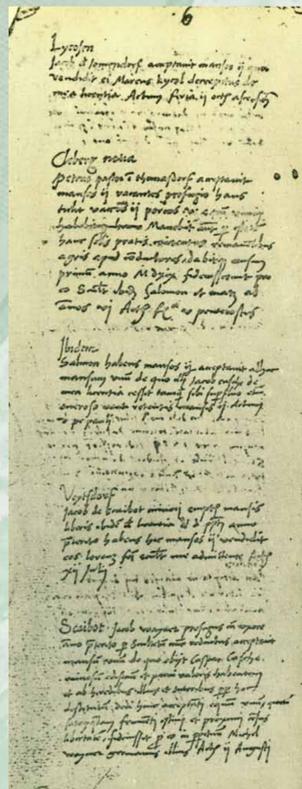
Nicolaus Copernicus, *De revolutionibus*, preface



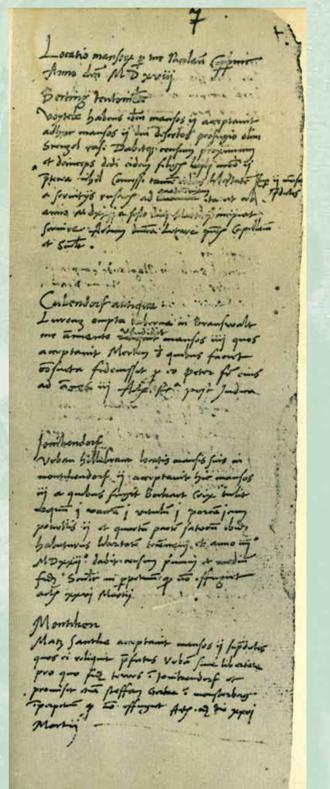
Walery Eljasz-Radzikowski, *Nicolaus Copernicus on his deathbed receiving his work „De revolutionibus”*, 1869, oil on canvas



Nicolaus Copernicus *De revolutionibus*, second edition (so-called Basel edition), 1566



Locations of the Olsztyn District, Likusy, Klebark Mały, Wójtowo, Skajboty, 1517



Locations of the Olsztyn District, Bartąg, Stare Kawkowo, Jonkowo, Małki, 1518