

**Atlas of
Topographical Anatomy
of the Brain and
Surrounding Structures**

**for Neurosurgeons,
Neuroradiologists,
and Neuropathologists**

By W. Seeger

Wolfgang Seeger

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With 258 Figures

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Foreword

The traditional education of the neurosurgeon and the clinician working in related specialties is based on their presumed knowledge of the macroscopic anatomy of the brain as traditionally taught. Most neurosurgical textbooks, therefore, provide macroscopic views of sections of the operative site. The literature that has accumulated in recent years on the subject of microneurosurgical operations also follows this principle.

For some years, however, the customary macroscopic representation of the anatomy of the brain has been inadequate for the needs of the neurosurgeon using refined modern operative techniques. Furthermore, despite their detailed presentation, stereotactic atlases are also insufficient for neurosurgical purposes, since the magnified views of sections reproduced in them are of little assistance to the operator in achieving spatial orientation in the brain.

In this work, therefore, an attempt is made to give a spatial representation of the brain, its vessels, and the surrounding structures, whose morphological details can be reproduced within the magnification range of the surgical microscope. The considerable variability of the vessels, which has become generally known only in recent years, has also been taken into account. At the same time, recognizable large topographical associations have been stressed for didactic reasons in the case of all structures shown with considerable enlargement.

The twofold aim – microanatomical presentation on the one hand, and a simultaneous illustration of the positional relationships in connection with the overall topic of the brain on the other – is impossible to realize by means of operation photographs or photographs of organ preparations, and it was, therefore, necessary to have recourse to anatomical drawings and operation sketches by the author. Another reason for the preference for drawings is the opportunity this affords of elucidating illustrations of complex structures by preceding them with drawings of the respective brain structure, then of the arteries, veins, meninges, etc., in stages, and then in a third step combining these in a comprehensive view representing the operative site. Moreover, it is technically almost impossible to pro-

duce simultaneous contrast preparations of the arteries and veins and thus obtain a complex photographic representation of the structures of the preparation.

The manuscript and drawings were completed in the years 1974–1976 after almost two decades of neurosurgical work. The data worked out in the early stages (Chapter 1 in particular) were used by the author as the basis for teaching programmes at the University of Giessen. Chapters 2–7, dealing with the operative technical aspects, were produced after mid-1975 and used by the author as the basis for microneurosurgical teaching of his colleagues at the University of Freiburg.

My thanks are due to Doz. Dr. E. Grote, a former colleague from Giessen, who first encouraged me to publish this work. I am grateful to Prof. A. Oksche, Director of the Anatomical Institute, University of Giessen, and Prof. J. Staubesand, Director of the Anatomical Institute I, University of Freiburg, as well as to my colleagues, in particular Dr. J. Gilsbach and Dr. H. Friedrich, for valuable suggestions and advice. Prof. U. Hachmeister, Centre for Pathology, University of Giessen, and Prof. W. Sandritter, Director of the Department of General Pathology and Pathological Anatomy, Pathological Institute, University of Freiburg, provided support by making available the necessary organic material.

Mr. K. Schmidt, Senior Dissector, Anatomical Institute I, University of Freiburg, gave suggestions and help with the production of injection preparations, which were prepared by Mr. D. Knapp, cand. med., in the course of work for his doctoral thesis. The painstaking work of translating the manuscript was undertaken by Ms. S. Brinkmann, Neurological Clinic, University of Freiburg. I wish to thank my colleagues Dr. E. Gröbner, Neurosurgical Clinic, and Prof. J. Dichgans, Neurological Clinic and Department of Neurophysiology, University of Freiburg, for looking over the translation. I am grateful to the secretaries of the Neurosurgical Clinic, University of Freiburg, Ms. E. Hilsenbek, Ms. V. Kullmann, and Ms. C. Cramer, for the helpful way in which they carried out the work of typing the German and English versions of the text.

Freiburg, January 1978

Wolfgang Seeger

Introduction

The aim of this work, as already briefly explained in the foreword, is to give a spatial representation of intracranial structures which will enable the microneurosurgeon to recognize the topographic-anatomical associations and thus facilitate his orientation during the operation. The book is intended to present the problems of the neurosurgeon to the clinician in related specialities, in particular to the neuroradiologist, thus putting him in a position to carry out preoperative examinations more purposefully than has hitherto been the case.

In carrying out the conventional preoperative radiological analysis, orientation was taken, as in the anatomical atlas, from two or three standard projections. This convention inevitably led, after continual repetition of the sagittal and lateral projections in particular, to a two-dimensional conception of structures which were in fact three-dimensional. It was consequently necessary to promote spatial conception by using different oblique projections. These oblique projections were used as follows in this book: for the representation of anatomical preparations, for the simplified representation of radiological findings, and for the illustration of the operation site.

The choice of this method suggested itself for three reasons. First, modern anatomical reproductions have unfortunately deviated from the spatial representation by oblique projection known in earlier centuries (cf. for example those by Jan Kalkar, in 1543 AD, the draughtsman of Vesalius's works). Secondly, oblique projections are seldom used in neuroradiology. They have hitherto been made only to show certain structures without superimposition by other structures. Oblique projections should be used additionally, however, in order to facilitate spatial orientation by the operator and to improve the possibility of measuring the distances between certain structures before the operation. Thirdly, it should be remembered that in microsurgical operations, more than in conventional interventions, there is a danger of losing orientation in the intracranial

space. The considerable enlargement shows only a small section of the operative field at one time. Furthermore, the varying oblique positions of the head of the patient used in the different operations make orientation more difficult. Today, operations in the strict lateral or sagittal position count as exceptions.

The use of oblique projections alone is nevertheless not sufficient to prevent disorientation of the operator. In the narrow, limited, microneurosurgical operative field the danger is that important neighbouring structures, which are not visible during operative preparation, may be endangered by pulling, pressure or inadvertent thermocoagulation. It was, therefore, necessary, instead of the customary method of showing the operation site, to include surrounding structures in the illustration and to give characteristic distance measurements between different structures.

The present work consists of two main parts. The first part is intended as a brief introduction to the macroscopic anatomy. The most important brain arteries have been included in a somewhat schematized form. The venous system of the brain could not be schematized meaningfully due to its extreme variability. It is, therefore, first shown in the second part, which makes use of more realistic illustrative methods. The second part of this work is concerned with the topographic-anatomical problems of the microneurosurgeon. Here a classification according to brain regions was chosen.

The various chapters of this book are to a large extent similarly arranged. Each begins with a written presentation of the topic, usually comprising several sections. This is followed by the illustrations relating to the respective chapter. At the end of the text of each chapter the relevant literature is listed.

Note:
(for Nomenclature)

If not otherwise indicated the numbers show distance measurements in millimetres.

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Part I

Anatomical Principles

Chapter 1

Brain and Cerebral Arteries

(for Veins see Part II)

A. Introduction and Notes on Nomenclature

The following survey applies only to the brain. The complicated structure of this organ and the difficulties of diagnostic visualization with conventional contrast media, which only picture the cavity systems (vessel lumina and C. S. F. spaces), necessitate a representation of the surface relief designed to meet the needs of the neurosurgeon. The surrounding bony structures and large blood vessels are well known from neuroradiological practice. Preoperative neuroradiological diagnostic techniques allow only an inadequate presentation of the relationships between the surface relief of the brain and the vascular arborizations covering it.

First, in the survey only the relationships between cerebral structures and arteries will be elaborated in order to give a general schematic view. Despite their great variability, the cerebral arteries reveal an arborization pattern which is easily understandable in principle. At operation, however, knowledge of this sort is not sufficient. This extreme variability, which has attracted a great deal of interest on the part of neurosurgeons in recent years, is therefore discussed in Part II, where the variable conditions are demonstrated under microsurgical aspects. The greater variability of the veins made it seem advisable to describe them first in Part II and to dispense with a survey here, in order to prevent too stereotyped thinking, which could lead to unpleasant surprise at the operating table.

Schematic cataloguing of the arteries seemed essential in order to facilitate orientation in the subsequent illustrations. The catalogue of arteries that follows was initially drawn up with acknowledgements to Ring (1969), as well as Stephens and Stilwell (1969). The large vessel

trunks have been marked with their initials. The main trunk of these vessels has been given the number 1 – e.g., A. carotis interna = c1, A. cerebri ant. = a1 (not to be confused with the numbering of the proximal and distal segments of A. cerebri ant. and media, which has found increasing use in recent years). Higher numbers – e.g., c2, c3, c4 – state the respective branch in question. This principle of abbreviation must be schematic because the branch offshoots do not always occur in this order. It is, however, a help to orientation. If a branch has subbranches these are designated by numbers after the point. Thus it is possible to designate an extended region of arborization with secondary and tertiary offshoots by simple numbering. As is well known, the nomenclature of the arteries in the international literature is not uniform. The author has limited himself to the simplest possible presentation. With regard to special questions the reader is referred in particular to the work of Newton and Potts (1974).

Catalogue of Arteries

c1	A. carotis int.
c2	A. ophthalmica
c3	A. hypophyseos sup.
c4	Aa. temporo-polares
c5	A. chorioidea ant.
c5.1	Rr. temp. of A. chor. ant.
c5.2	Rr. perforantes
c6	Medial group of perforating arteries (ad Subst. perfor. ant.). see m2.2
a1	A. cerebri ant.
a2	Perforating arteries of Chiasma
a3	A. Heubneri (A. recurrens Heubneri)
a4	A. communicans ant.
a5	A. corporis callosi mediana
a6	A. frontopolaris
a6.1	A. orbitalis
a7	A. callosomarginalis

a8	Inconstant trunk of Aa. frontales intt.	v3.1	A. spinalis post. (origin from A. vertebralis possible, too)
a8.1	A. frontalis int. ant.		
a8.2	A. frontalis int. media	v3.1.1	A. spinalis post., R. ascendens
a8.3	A. frontalis int. post.	v3.1.1.1	A. spinalis post., R. ascendens, Rr. ad medullam
a9	A. pericallosa	v3.1.2	A. spinalis post., R. descendens
a10	A. paracentralis	v3.1.2.1	A. spinalis post., R. descendens, Rr. ad medullam
a11	A. praecunealis		
m1	<i>A. cerebri media, prox. trunk</i>	v3.2	R. lateralis of A. cerebelli inf. post.
m2	Branches of prox. trunk of A. c. m.	v3.3	R. medialis of A. cerebelli inf. post. (A. vermicularis)
m2.1	Aa. temporo-polares (A. temp. ant.)	v4	A. spinalis ant.
m2.2	Medial group of perforating arteries (ad Subst. perfor. ant.), see c6		
m2.3	Aa. lenticulostriatae	b1	<i>A. basilaris</i>
m3	A. cerebri media, distal trunk	b2	Rr. ad pontem (pontine arteries)
m4	A. frontalis ascendens (A. frontoparietalis ascendens)	b2.1	Rr. ad pontem, medial group ("Aa. medianae")
m4.1	A. orbito-frontalis	b2.2	Rr. ad pontem, lateral group
m4.2	A. operculo-frontalis (A. candelabra)	b2.2.1	Rr. ad pontem, lateral group, variation of one of the arteries: A. trigemina
m4.3	A. sulci centralis (Aa. sulci centralis)	b2.2.2	Rr. ad pontem, lateral group, variations of one or more of these: so-called Aa. cerebellares accessoriae
m5	A. temp. media		
m6	A. parietalis post. (Aa. parietales postt.)	b3	A. auditiva int. (ca. 50% originate from A. cerebelli inf. ant., 50% directly from A. basilaris)
m7	A. angularis		
m8	A. temp. post. (Aa. thalamoperforantes)	b3.1	Termination of A. auditiva int. (Meatus acusticus int.)
p1	<i>A. cerebri post.</i>	b3.1.1	Vestibular branch to N. VII
p2	Aa. thalamoperforatae	b3.1.2	Cochlear branches
p3	Perforating arteries to the midbrain from the proximal segment of A. cerebri post.	b3.1.3	Vestibulocochlear branches
p4	A. quadrigemina	b4	A. cerebelli inf. ant.
p5/p5.1	A. communicans post./Rami perforantes	b4.1	"RL" (rostral lateral artery after Naidich and Kriecheff), see Salamon
p6	"A. chorioidea post." (post. chor. group) see Figs. 26 and 111	b4.1.1	Branch to Lobulus semilunaris superior (ascending artery)
p6.1	A. chor. post. med.	b4.1.2	Branch to Lobulus biventer (descending artery)
p6.1.1	Rr. antt.	b4.2	"CM" (caudomedial artery after Naidich and Kriecheff)
p6.1.1.1	Rr. antt., medial branches		+ Rr. ad pontem (+ medullam)
p6.1.1.2	Rr. antt., lateral branches	b4.2.1	Branches to Plexus chorioideus
p6.1.2	Rr. postt.	b4.2.2	Medial branch to Lobulus biventer
p6.1.2.1	Rr. postt., medial branches	b4.2.3	Lateral branch to Lobulus biventer
p6.1.2.2	Rr. postt., lateral branches	b5	A. cerebelli sup.
p6.2	A. (Aa.) chor. post. lat. (lateral post. chor. group)	b5.1	A. cerebelli sup., Rr. ad pontem and mesencephalic perforating arteries
p6.2.1	Rr. antt.	b5.2	A. cerebelli sup., R. med.
p6.2.1.1	Rr. antt., medial branches	b5.3	A. cerebelli sup., R. lat.
p6.2.1.2	Rr. antt., lateral branches		
p6.2.2	Rr. postt.		
p6.2.2.1	Rr. postt., medial branches to Fornix and Thalamus		
p6.2.2.2	Rr. postt., lateral branches to Lamina affixa and Plexus chor.		
p7	Rr. perforantes to Crus cerebri and Tegmentum mesencephali		
p8	Aa. thalamogeniculatae		
p9	Aa. hippocampi		
p10	Aa. splenii corp. call.		
p11.1	Rr. temporales anteriores (R. temp. ant.)		
p11.2	Rr. temporales postt. (R. temp. post.)		
p12	A. parieto-occipitalis		
p13	A. calcarina		
v1	<i>A. vertebralis</i>		
v2	Rr. ad medullam		
v3	A. cerebelli inf. post.		

Extradural carotid branches are not classified, but designated with their full names. Veins have not been classified since there is no uniform international nomenclature and types of course are extremely varied.

Since the work consists mainly of illustrations it will also be understood by non-English-speaking readers. It was decided to use the international Paris Nomenclature of 1955, which is also specifically

recognized by the Anglo-Saxon countries*. This was not always possible, particularly for the designation of vessels, since in this regard the Paris Nomenclature is insufficient for the needs of neurosurgeons and neuroradiologists. Many structures have been named only in recent years, and the names differ with different authors. Some designations that were still included in the Basle Nomenclature of 1898 were excluded from the Paris nomenclature. The

* "Nomina anatomica" examined by the I.A.N.C. and permitted by the Fifth International Anatomical Congress Oxford 1950, printed in England by Spottiswoode, Ballantyne and Co. G. m. b. H., London and Colchester, private printing 1955, page VII.

Jena Nomenclature of 1935 did not receive general recognition and has, therefore, been left out of consideration. Many anatomical terms have been in general use in clinical work for hundreds of years and, as can be seen from the special literature, even the Paris Nomenclature has not changed this. For this reason some well-known older designations 'e.g., for the large fissures' have been kept.

In the following catalogue the Paris Nomenclature is given as an alternative to the customary designations used in the clinic, insofar as these are used in this book. In addition, for the sake of completeness, some structures that are not illustrated have been included in the catalogue.

Nomina anatomica
(Paris 1955)

Nomina anatomica (Basle 1898 and earlier,
selection used in this book)

Osteologia

Ossa cranii

Os occipitale

Foramen magnum

Pars basilaris

Sulcus sinus petrosi inferioris

Squama occipitalis

Clivus

Tuberculum pharyngeum

Condylus occipitalis

Canalis hypoglossi

Fossa condylaris

Tuberculum jugulare

Processus intrajugularis

Protuberantia occipitalis externa (Inion)

(Crista occipitalis externa)

Linea nuchae suprema

Linea nuchae superior

Linea nuchae inferior

Protuberantia occipitalis interna

Sulcus sinus sagittalis superioris

Sulcus sinus transversi

Sulcus sinus sigmoidei

For. occipitale magnum

Sulcus sagitt. sup.

Sulcus transversus

Sulcus sigmoideus

Os sphenoidale

Corpus

Clivus

Sella turcica

Fossa hypophyseos

Tuberculum sellae

Dorsum sellae

Processus clinoideus posterior

Processus clinoideus medius

Sulcus caroticus

Lingula sphenoidalis

Crista sphenoidalis

Rostrum sphenoidale

Nomina anatomica
(Paris 1955)

Nomina anatomica (Basle 1898 and earlier,
selection used in this book)

Sinus sphenoidalis	
Septum sinuum sphenoidalium	
Apertura sinus sphenoidalis	
<i>Ala Minor</i>	<i>Ala parva</i>
Canalis opticus	
Processus clinoides anterior	
Fissura orbitalis superior	
<i>Ala major</i>	<i>Ala magna</i>
Facies cerebralis	
Facies temporalis	
Facies sphenomaxillaris	
Facies orbitalis	
Foramen rotundum	
Foramen ovale	
Foramen spinosum	
Spina ossis sphenoidalis	
<i>Processus pterygoideus</i>	
Os temporale	
<i>Pars petrosa</i>	
Processus mastoideus	
Sulcus sinus sigmoidei	Sulcus sigmoideus
Sulcus a. occipitalis	
Foramen mastoideum	
Apex (partis petrosae)	
Canalis caroticus	
Tegmen tympani	
Eminentia arcuata	
Hiatus canalis facialis	
Sulcus n. petrosi majoris	
Sulcus n. petrosi minoris	
Impressio trigemini	
Sulcus sinus petrosi superioris	Sulcus petrosus sup.
Porus acusticus internus	
Meatus acusticus internus	
Sulcus sinus petrosi inferioris	Sulcus petrosus inf.
Processus intrajugularis	
Processus styloideus	
Foramen stylomastoideum	
<i>Pars tympanica</i>	
Meatus acusticus	
Porus acusticus externus	
<i>Pars squamosa</i>	
Processus zygomaticus	
Os parietale	
Foramen parietale	
Tuber parietale	
Linea temporalis superior	
Linea temporalis inferior	
Sulcus sagittalis	
Sulcus sinus sigmoidei	Sulcus sigmoideus
Os frontale	
Squama frontalis	
Tuber frontale	
Arcus superciliaris	
Glabella	
Margo supraorbitalis	
Foramen sive Incisura orbitalis	
Incisura sive Foramen frontale	

Nomina anatomica
(Paris 1955)

Nomina anatomica (Basle 1898 and earlier,
selection used in this book)

Pars orbitalis

Fossa glandulae lacrimalis
Sinus frontalis

Fossa lacrimalis

Os ethmoidale

Lamina cribrosa
Crista galli
Lamina perpendicularis
Cellulae ethmoidales

Os lacrimale

Fossa sacci lacrimalis

Os nasale

Vomer

Maxilla

Canalis infraorbitalis

Os zygomaticum

Processus temporalis
Processus frontalis

Cranium

Lamina externa
Diploë
Lamina interna
Basis cranii interna
Basis cranii externa
Fossa crani anterior
Fossa crani media
Fossa crani posterior
Impressiones digitatae
Foveolae granulares
Fossa temporalis
Arcus zygomaticus
Fossa infratemporalis
Fossa pterygopalatina
Fissura pterygopalatina
Foramen jugulare
Fissura sphenopetrosa
Fissura petro-occipitalis
Foramen lacerum
Cavum nasi
Septum nasi osseum
Apertura piriformis
Choanae

Foveolae granulares (Pacchioni)

Orbita

Margo supraorbitalis
Margo infraorbitalis
Fissura orbitalis superior
Fissura orbitalis inferior

Nomina anatomica
(Paris 1955)

Nomina anatomica (Basle 1898 and earlier,
selection used in this book)

Syndesmologia

Suturae cranii

Sutura coronalis
Sutura sagittalis
Sutura lambdoidea
Sutura occipitomastoidea
Sutura sphenofrontalis
Sutura spheno-ethmoidalis
Sutura squamosa
(Sutura frontalis)
Sutura frontozygomatica

Synchondroses cranii

Synchondrosis spheno-occipitalis
Synchondrosis sphenopetrosa

Encephalon

Rhombencephalon
Myelencephalon
Medulla oblongata

Sulcus medianus posterior
Fissura mediana anterior
Pyramis (medullae oblongatae)
Sulcus lateralis anterior
Sulcus lateralis posterior
Oliva

Pedunculus cerebellaris inferior
Tuberculum nuclei cuneati

Ventriculus quartus
Fossa rhomboidea
Sulcus medianus
Striae medullares ventriculi quarti
Colliculus facialis
Velum medullare posterius
Velum medullare anterius

Frenulum veli medullaris anterioris

Obex
Apertura mediana ventriculi quarti
Apertura lateralis ventriculi quarti (?)

Metencephalon
Pons

Sulcus basilaris
Pedunculus cerebellaris medius

Cerebellum

Fissura horizontalis cerebelli
Fissura prima

Vermis

Lingula cerebelli
Lobulus centralis
Culmen
Declive
Folium vermis
Tuber vermis
Pyramis (vermis)
Uvula (vermis)
Nodulus

Corpus restiforme

Foramen Magendi
Foramen Luschkae (?)*

Brachium pontis

* Usually recessus without aperture.

Nomina anatomica
(Paris 1955)

Nomina anatomica (Basle 1898 and earlier,
selection used in this book)

Ala lobuli centralis
Lobulus quadrangularis
Lobulus simplex
Lobulus semilunaris superior
Lobulus semilunaris inferior
Lobulus biventer
Tonsilla cerebelli
Flocculus
 Pedunculus flocculi
 (*Isthmus rhombencephali*)
Pedunculus cerebellaris superior
 ~~Mesencephalon*~~
 Pedunculus cerebri
Crus cerebri
Fossa interpeduncularis
Substantia perforata posterior
 Tectum mesencephali
Colliculus superior
Colliculus inferior
Brachium colliculi superioris
Brachium colliculi inferioris
Aquaeductus cerebri

Lobulus quadrangularis sup.
Lobulus quadrangularis inf.

Brachium conjunctivum

Lamina quadrigemina

Aquaeductus (Sylvii)

Prosencephalon

Diencephalon

Ventriculus tertius
Commissura posterior
Foramen interventriculare
Sulcus hypothalamicus
Adhaesio interthalamica
Recessus opticus
Recessus infundibuli

For. interventriculare (Monroi)

Hypothalamus

Corpus mamillare
Tuber cinereum
Infundibulum
Hypophysis
Tractus opticus
Chiasma opticum
Lamina terminalis
Fasciculus mamillothalamicus
Ansa lenticularis

Thalamencephalon

Thalamus

Pulvinar
Taenia thalami
Stria medullaris thalami
 Metathalamus
Corpus geniculatum mediale
Corpus geniculatum laterale
 Epithalamus
Corpus pineale
Recessus pinealis

* Trigonum lemnisci (missing in Nomina Anat. 1955).

Nomina anatomica
(Paris 1955)

Nomina anatomica (Basle 1898 and earlier,
selection used in this book)

Recessus suprapinealis
Habenula
Commissura habenularum

Telencephalon

Cerebrum

Hemispherium

Fissura longitudinalis cerebri

Fissura transversa cerebri

Fossa lateralis cerebri

Sulcus lateralis

Insula

Gyri insulae

Gyrus longus insulae

Gyri breves insulae

Sulcus circularis insulae

Sulcus centralis

Lobus frontalis

Polus frontalis

Sulcus praecentralis

Gyrus praecentralis

Gyrus frontalis superior

Sulcus frontalis superior

Gyrus frontalis medius

Sulcus frontalis inferior

Gyrus frontalis inferior

Pars opercularis

Pars triangularis

Pars orbitalis

Gyrus rectus

Gyri orbitales

Lobus temporalis

Polus temporalis

Sulci temporales transversi

Gyri temporales transversi

Gyrus temporalis superior

Sulcus temporalis superior

Gyrus temporalis medius

Sulcus temporalis inferior

Gyrus temporalis inferior

Lobus occipitalis

Polus occipitalis

Incisura praeoccipitalis

Lobus parietalis

Sulcus postcentralis

Gyrus postcentralis

Lobulus parietalis superior

Sulcus intraparietalis

Lobulus parietalis inferior

Gyrus supramarginalis

Gyrus angularis

Sulcus corporis callosi

Sulcus cinguli

Sulcus collateralis

Gyrus occipitotemporalis medialis

Gyrus occipitotemporalis lateralis

Gyrus cinguli

Isthmus gyri cinguli

Gyrus parahippocampalis, Uncus

Fissura lat. cerebri (Sylvii)

Gyrus front. I

Gyrus front. II

Gyrus front. III

Gyrus temp. I

Gyrus temp. II

Gyrus temp. III