



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

Urbis Romae Sciographia Ex Antiquis Monumentis Accuratiss Delineata . . .

Stock#: 0035bm
Map Maker: Rossi
Date: 1574 (1649 ca)
Place: Rome
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 60 x 41 inches (if joined)
Price: SOLD



Description:

Stunning 8 sheet Lafreri School Wall Map of Rome

Near flawless example of Giovanni Giacomo Rossi's monumental 8 sheet plan of Rome, first published in 1574 by Etienne Dupérac, a Parisien engraver, working in Rome.

Rossi's monumental Lafreri-type plan of Rome, oriented with north to the top left, shows both a cohesive plan of Rome and an illustration of its major buildings in profile. The plan was originally compiled from a detailed archaeological survey by Pirro Ligorio (c.1510-83), a scholar of the ancient monuments in Rome. The view employs Ligorio's illustrations for the reconstructions of the buildings.

Inside the city each building is delineated, with the majority named; these include the Colosseum, the Pantheon, the Baths of Diocletian and the Circus Maximus. Outside the city the country estates are marked, for example the Gardens of Domitian, funerary monuments such as the mausoleums of Hadrian and Augustus, and the circuses of Nero and Hadrian.

The plan was originally engraved by the Parisian engraver and publisher Étienne Dupérac (c.1525-1604), who used the more Italian name of Stephanus during his period working in Rome (1669-1582). During this time Dupérac worked for various Roman publishers, including Lafreri, Vaccari, Faleti and P.P. Palumbo.

The dedication, to Charles IX of France, explains that the map was the fruit of fifteen years of study of the ruins and monuments of ancient Rome and of related literary texts. It also gives a detailed account of the discovery of the sarcophagus of Severiana in the church of SS. Cosmas and Damian in 1562.

First published by Vaccaro in 1574, there are no known examples of the first state. Huelsen records only



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one known example bearing the name of Francesco Villamena (c.1565 - 1624) in the British Museum, with a Rome address, therefore post-1590. Giovanni Giacomo de Rossi (1621-1691) must have acquired the plates from the Villamena estate, publishing the plan from 1660.

Detailed Condition:

8 sheets, unjoined. Each sheet with wide uncut margins.