



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## Introductionis in Universam Geographiam, Tam Veterem Quam Novam Libri VI . . . .

**Stock#:** 105520  
**Map Maker:** Clüver / Jansson  
**Date:** 1661  
**Place:** Amsterdam  
**Color:** Uncolored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 6.5 x 8 inches  
**Price:** \$ 3,400.00



### Description:

#### *An Enduring Work of Historical Importance*

Nice example of this important historical atlas, which was first published in 1624 by Philipp Clüver.

This edition is an early milestone in the history of Clüver, published in Amsterdam by Janssonius (Jan Jansson) and including for the first time a number of modern maps from the Janssonius editions of the Mercator *Atlas Minor*.

Published posthumously, Philipp Cluver's most important work cemented his legacy as a pioneering figure in historical geography. During his time as a soldier, Cluver traveled extensively across Europe, visiting Germany, England, Scotland, Holland, and Italy. A year after his return to Leiden, he was appointed geographus academicus ("academic geographer") with an annual stipend, marking the beginning of his significant contributions to the field of geography.

Cluver's approach to geography was deeply intertwined with history and classical authors, a method popular during the Enlightenment era. Antiquarian geography sought to clarify place names known from classical literature, which had become geographically confused by the Renaissance. Cluver's extensive travels and local observations enriched his work, allowing him to supplement classical literary sources with firsthand knowledge. His concise descriptions of various countries provided a robust human and historical context, establishing Cluver as the founder of historical geography.

The main text of Cluver's work offers a comprehensive description of all the countries of the world, including a notable section on the Americas. The first edition, published in 1624, did not include maps, but later editions featured impressive, engraved maps of Italy, Africa, Russia, China, India, and America. Notably, the map of America in this edition shows California attached to the continent, in contrast to its



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depiction as an island in later editions. Many of these maps were etched by the renowned cartographer Petrus Bertius. The addition of a number of modern maps allows for a comparison of ancient and modern geographical knowledge which is not present in most editions of Cluver's *Introductionis*.

Cluver's work was highly regarded by his contemporaries, with twenty editions published in multiple languages between 1624 and 1729, including two additional editions in 1661. The *Introductionis* remained a standard reference through the mid-17th century, underscoring its enduring impact on the field of geography.

There were two editions of the *Introductionis in Universam Geographiam* published in 1661. The second was printed by Elsevier's press in Amsterdam, and was much smaller in size, with smaller maps and only 38 maps in total.

**Provenance:** Nathaniel Seymour Thomas (1867-1937) (his bookplate), second bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming (1909-1927). The Reverend Thomas's library was sold at Anderson Galleries, January 30, 1929.

**Detailed Condition:**

Small quarto. Rebound in modern, cat paw half calf over marble boards (rubbed). Spine in six compartments separated by gilt-ruled bands, second compartment with red morocco label and gilt lettering, rest with alternating gilt arabesque motifs. Armorial bookplate of Right Reverend Nathaniel Seymour Thomas on front paste-down. Top edge gilt. 45 fine double-page engraved maps after Ortelius, Van den Keere and others, including double-hemisphere world map, America, China, etc. [symb]4, A-Y4, (46 folding and 1 single page plates). [viii], 142, [2], 31, [1]. 45 folding maps, 1 folding plate of climatic zones and winds, and 1 single-page chart of different mileage scales. Several diagrams in text. Some damp staining and toning throughout, slight cockling of leaves, and a few ink marks.