



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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[Hispaniola]

Stock#: 58747
Map Maker: Bordone
Date: 1528 circa
Place: Venice
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 6 x 3.5 inches (plus text)
Price: SOLD



Description:

One of the Earliest Printed Representations of the Island of Hispaniola

Fine example of Bordone's map of "Spagnola," better known as Hispaniola. It is from his important *Isolario* and is one of the earliest printed maps of any portion of the New World.

The map is an inset within a page of text, with text on the verso as well. The island is centered within the inset. The compass rose interestingly is drawn through and around the island, with north at the top and Greek letters and symbols indicating the other directions.



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The island itself is labeled "Spagnola". Mountains and streams are indicated in the interior, as is the settlement of Isabella, which was founded by Christopher Columbus on his second voyage. Buildings are scattered throughout the island, suggesting that Europeans had already spread their influence and culture.

The Isolario

The map appeared in Benedetto Bordone's influential atlas of islands, the *Isolario*. It is also an early, important work in that it covers the modern world with little cartographic reference to Ptolemy's influence. The *Isolario* was also one of the first atlases to include numerous maps of the New World, with many high-resolution maps of Caribbean islands and South American regions. This map, for example, is one of the earliest printed maps of the island of Hispaniola.

The *Isolario* was first published in Venice in 1528 by Nicolo d'Aristotile detto Zoppino under the title of *Libro di Benedetto Bordone nel qual si ragiona de tutte l'isole del mondo*. The second edition of 1534, also published by Zoppino, was when the book was named the *Isolario di Benedetto Bordone nel qual si ragiona de tutte l'isole del mondo*. It is the most prominent example of what was a popular genre in Italy in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

Each island was described extensively and accompanied by a map. Hispaniola's description explained the appearance of the island and Columbus' influence. Other islands, like the mythical island of Brazil, detailed places that never actually existed.

The *Isolario* was an important milestone in geographic publishing and the map of Hispaniola, then the most important island in the Caribbean, is a significant document in the island's cartographic history.

Detailed Condition: