



## Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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### [ Transylvania ] Principaute de Transilvanie tiree de W. Lazius, de I Sambucus, et de G. Mercator &c. . . . 1664

**Stock#:** 60297  
**Map Maker:** Sanson  
**Date:** 1664  
**Place:** Paris  
**Color:** Outline Color  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 24 x 16.5 inches  
**Price:** \$ 345.00



#### Description:

Nicolas Sanson's map of Transylvania shows the geographical knowledge of the time with respect to the Principality of Transylvania. The title itself references the map's three sources: Wolfgang Lazius, Johannes Sambucus, and Gerardus Mercator, each of whom played a key role in the development of cartography.

Sanson's map includes detailed topographical features, major cities, rivers, and political divisions within Transylvania. The fusion of the humanistic approach of Lazius, the local knowledge of Sambucus, and the mathematical precision of Mercator resulted in a map that was both accurate and culturally informed.

**Wolfgang Lazius (1514-1565)** was an Austrian humanist, historian, and cartographer. Lazius made significant contributions to the representation of Eastern Europe. Lazius' works provided insights into regional geography, particularly the topographical and political features of Transylvania. His depiction of the region might served as a basis for Sanson's understanding of the territory's boundaries and natural landmarks.

**Johannes Sambucus (1531-1584)** was a Hungarian polymath, physician, and historian whose works encompassed various fields, including cartography. Sambucus's historical writings and maps would have provided Sanson with local insights into Transylvania. His knowledge of the cultural and historical context likely enriched Sanson's depiction, providing a nuanced portrayal of the region.

**Gerardus Mercator (1512-1594).** Mercator, a renowned Flemish cartographer, is best known for creating the Mercator projection, a cylindrical map projection still in use today. Mercator's map of Transylvania was one of the two earliest obtainable maps of the region, along with the map of Abraham



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Ortelius.

The "Principaute de Transilvanie tiree de W. Lazius, de I. Sambucus, et de G. Mercator" by Nicolas Sanson stands as a testament to the cumulative nature of cartography. By drawing on the insights and methodologies of three distinct and pioneering sources, Sanson created a rich and multifaceted representation of Transylvania. The map embodies a convergence of humanism, local expertise, and mathematical rigor, reflecting the evolving art and science of cartography in the 17th century. It provides a window into the geographical understanding of the time, informed by the intellectual currents that shaped early modern Europe.

**Detailed Condition:**