



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

Poland shewing the Claims of Austria, Russia & Prussia

Stock#: 67713
Map Maker: Cary
Date: 1785 circa
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 11 x 7.5 inches
Price: \$ 175.00



Description:

Scarce John Cary map of Poland published during "the Partitions." The map itself is detailed, showing the cities, rivers, lakes, and forests of Poland. Regions are named, including the Great Duchy of Lithuania, Polachia, Mascovia, Red Russia, Black Russia, Little and Great Poland, Ukraine, Tartary, and many more. Parts of adjacent countries are shown including Sweden, Russia, Germany, and Hungary.

The most interesting part of the map is the three lines showing the delimitations of what each country would like to claim. Russia proposes to take a small portion of eastern Poland, while Austria targets Galicia. Prussia looks to expand the area around its kingdom.

The partitions were the culmination of a century-long decline in Polish power. The liberum veto which could be exercised by any nobleman had effectively paralyzed the state. While unofficial encroachments had occurred for many years prior, the first partition was formally agreed in by the conquering nations in 1772. A second partition would ensue in 1790, and a final partition by 1795. While the first move may have been motivated solely by a hunger for new land, scholarship suggests that the final annihilations of Poland were in response to Poland's recovery after the first partition, and a motivation to keep the balance of power in the region.

The partition shown here appears to match the terms of the 1772 partition most closely, suggesting that it was published prior to 1790. Other editions of this map are dated to 1785.

Detailed Condition:

Some toning.