



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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(Grand Duchy of Lithuania) Magni Ducatus Lithuaniae Caetrarumq Regionum illi Adiacentium exacta decrip . . .

Stock#: 71441
Map Maker: Jansson
Date: 1649 circa
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 22 x 18.5 inches
Price: \$ 1,600.00



Description:

Hondius's Edition of the Gerritsz Map of Lithuania.

Fine example of this important map of Lithuania at its grandest scale, based upon Hessel Gerritsz's revolutionary four-sheet map of the same title.

The map shows Lithuania extending from Latvia in the north to Ukraine in the south. In the west, it encompasses Poland and Prussia. At the right of the map is an inset of the Dniepr River, from about Cherkasy to its mouth on Black Sea. This map was issued by Hondius, following Blaeu's original 4-sheet version of the Gerritsz map, both Blaeu and Jansson issued single-sheet versions, the latter of which was re-issued by Valk & Schenk at the end of the 17th century.

Hessel Gerritsz prepared his original map from manuscript drafts prepared under the instructions of Prince Nicolas Christophe Radziwill. His four-sheet map was first issued in 1613 by Willem Blaeu, under Blaeu's original imprint Guilhelmus Janssonis. This is one of the earliest maps published by Blaeu, who did not incorporate this map into an atlas until approximately 1630.

The Radziwill map is one of the most important works of European cartography from the end of the 16th and the beginning of the 17th century and is an important contribution to the progress in the mapping of the whole continent. The map had its beginning in 1586 when Prince Michael Radziwill commissioned M.Strubicz to survey the entire Lithuanian state which then included Poland. Strubicz's map was so



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accurate and detailed that it provided the basis for all subsequent maps of the area during the 17th and 18th centuries. In addition to the usual topographical details, there is considerable historical information also provided.

The map includes the Lithuanian coat of arms, title cartouche, sailing ship and vignettes within the image. Buczek remarks that

the map ... occupies a very prominent position among ... European cartography ... and ... was also a great step forward in the mapping of the lands then forming part of Poland ... there are on the map 1020 towns and villages and within the boundaries of the Grand Dutchy of Lithuania alone there are 511 towns, 31 villages, and 1 monastery.

States

Imago Poloniae lists four states of the Hondius map:

1. Hondius, 1636. Bears inscription *Sumptibus Henrici Hondy.*
2. Jansson, 1649. Bears inscription *Sumptibus Joannis Janssonii.*
3. Moses Pitt, 1680. Bears inscription *Sumptibus Janssonio-Waesbergior.*
4. Schenk and Valck, 1690. Bears inscription *Typis Amstel. apud | P.Schenk & G.Valk. | Cum priv:*

This example is state 2, with the Jansson imprint

Detailed Condition:

Original hand color. Some toning and mat staining from former framing.