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**Ungariae Tanst. Descriptio Nunc Correcta, et Aucta Maximil. II Aug. Opt. Pr. PP dicata
Per I. Samb M.D. LXVI**

Stock#: 74218
Map Maker: Tannstetter (Georgius Collimituis) / Zsámboky
Date: 1566
Place: Vienna
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 21.3 x 27.2 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

An Important Early Copy of the Lazarus Map of 1528

An exceptional survival, this is the fourth known example of the earliest surviving copy of the Lazarus map of Hungary published in the Holy Roman Empire.

The Lazarus' Map of Hungary (*Tabula Hungariae*) is one of the most important medieval maps of Europe. Surviving in a single example in Budapest, it is listed in UNESCO's Memory of the World Register and considered a national treasure. The map provides a unique and important look at the Kingdom of Hungary at the beginning of the 16th Century.

The 1528 *Tabula Hungariae*



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The present map, published in 1566 in Vienna, was created from an original drawn by Georg Tannstetter, who in 1528 preserved in print the original *Tabula Hungariae*, a now lost manuscript map by Hungarian cleric Lazarus Secretarius. The map was created in the light of the rapid advance of the Turks into Central Europe in the first Austrian Turkish War. The history of its origins is described in detail in a cartouche on the right edge: Compiled by Lazerus, revised by Tannstetter edited by Johannes Cuspinianus, dedicated to King Ferdinand and printed in 1528 in Ingolstadt by Petrus Apianus. Tannstetter's map now survives in a single example in the National Library of Hungary.

The map shows the settlements and landmarks of the Kingdom of Hungary in the early 16th century. The southern areas were then occupied by the Ottoman Empire. As the only covered parts outside the border are in the south, it is thought that the purpose of the creation of the map was the preparations for the war against the Ottomans. Some of the settlements shown on the map vanished during the years of Ottoman wars.

The most valued information on the map are the names and descriptions of settlements. There are approximately 1400 geographical names on the map, of which 1270 are names of settlements (365 on the territory of post-Trianon Hungary.) The geographical names were transcribed differently from modern times. For example, today's é was written ee, today's ö was ew. It is also noted that c is sometimes written tz, which is a characteristic of the Old High German orthography. These may be created by contributors, who prepared the work for printing. However, with some other names, Lázár used the pronunciation of Hungarian dialects.

Lazarus' map, *Tabula Hungariae*, is considered the oldest survived map of Hungary. The original was made around 1515, while a printed version appeared in 1528 in Ingolstadt. It was a much more detailed depiction than anything produced up to that point, illustrating fortifications, settlements, and some historical events. It is an authentic and very valuable document with respect, also, to the situation in the northern part of present day Serbia, just before the Battle of Mohács and the Ottoman expansion after the battle. After its "re-discovery" in 1906, it became the subject of study for a large number of researchers. It also represents a segment of planetary cultural heritage and, as of 2007, has found its place on UNESCO's Memory of the World Register. The original is kept in the Map Collection Hungarica, at the National Széchényi Library in Budapest.

The *Tabula Hungariae* is also called Lazarus map, because its manuscript was made by a person called Lazarus, who worked under Archbishop Tamás Bakócz (1497-1521) in the chancellery. Katalin Plihál's studies during the recent years have revealed a person who perfectly fits the known descriptions, Lazarus Tinódy.



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The orientation of this map is quite unusual with geographic north rotated to right by about 40 to 45 degrees. The theories for this orientation are generally (1) the map employs a world projection of Ptolemy or that (2) the map has no specific mathematical orientation.

Twenty-five years after the publication of the original map, the first copies were made in Italy: 1553 by Vavassore (Bifolco / R. 501, Szathmary 39, Szantai Vavassore 2), 1559 by Ligorio (Bifolco / R. 502, Szathmary 47, Szantai Ligorio 1) and Lafreri (Bifolco / R. 503, Szathmary 48, Szantai Lafreri 1a-e).

The Sambucus Edition of the Lazerus Map Published in Vienna

The only copy of the Lazerus map published in the Holy Roman Empire first appeared in 1566. The work of the Hungarian Humanist Johannes Sambucus (János Zsámboky), the map was engraved by Donat Hübschmann. Although by 1566 there were more accurate maps of Hungary (see, for example, the map by Wolfgang Lazius 1552/56), Sambucus used the almost 40 year old model of Lazarus for his first map of Hungary.

Szantai notes: "A work with many mistakes, for example with the reflection of the arms of Hungary. There was a place-name list enclosed to the edge of the sheet. The list was set in Hungarian, German and Latin. In the text box (Lectori S.) Zsamboki referred to the quick work and promised to work more elaborately next time." Five years later, Zsamboky produced a revised version of the Lazius map, which was copied by Ortelius and used in his atlases from 1579 onwards.

Rarity

Szantai lists only 3 copies of the 1566 Zsamboki map, held in libraries in Budapest, Dillingen and Bologna.

Detailed Condition: