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Hispaniae Novae Sivae Magnae Recens Et Vera Descriptio 1579

Stock#: 74863mp2
Map Maker: Metellus
Date: 1598
Place: Cologne
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 11 x 7.5 inches
Price: \$ 750.00



Description:

Johannes Metellus Map of Mexico, One of the Earliest Printed Maps of New Spain

A nice example of Metellus's map of western New Spain, showing the recently-created Spanish settlements, many rivers, and large lakes, including Lake Chapala and a mythical sea with islands in the northwest.

The map is based upon Abraham Ortelius's map of the same title, published in Antwerp in 1579.

Scholars still disagree over the sources for the map, although one suggests that Ortelius used Jean Duran's map of Mexico from 1575. What is evident is the level of detail Ortelius felt confident in including about Spain's new colony and its indigenous people. In the northeast, near a mountain range, he writes, "This is a deserted region, where people live in the woods, who highly favor rotting meat, somewhat cooked in the sun. They often fight among each other while collecting harvests and fruits." Further west, he had heard of people who practice anthropophagy, "They who live in these mountains are cannibals."

Rarity

Metellus maps are rare on the market.

Detailed Condition: