



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard  
La Jolla, CA 92037

[www.raremaps.com](http://www.raremaps.com)

(858) 551-8500  
[blr@raremaps.com](mailto:blr@raremaps.com)

## [Silesia] Slesiae Descriptio XV Nova Tabula

**Stock#:** 75727  
**Map Maker:** Munster  
**Date:** 1552 circa  
**Place:** Basle  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 14.5 x 11.5 inches  
**Price:** \$ 395.00



### Description:

Scarce variant edition of Sebastian Munster's map of Silesia, being the only edition of the map to include the extra grid numbers, an early attempt at a different standardized indexing of place names.

The map is oriented with east at the top and is centered on the course of the Oder River.

Munster's *Geographia* (first published in 1540) and his later *Cosmographia* were cartographic landmarks. The *Geographia* included not only Ptolemaic maps, but also a number of landmark modern maps, including the first separate maps of the 4 continents, the first map of England and the earliest obtainable map of Scandinavia. The *Cosmographia* (first published in 1544) was the earliest German description of the world and a major work in the revival of geographic thought in 16th-century Europe. Altogether, about 40 editions of the *Cosmographia* appeared between 1544 and 1628.

Munster dominated cartographic publication during the mid-16th century. Munster is generally regarded as one of the most important map makers of the 16th century. Munster was a linguist and mathematician who initially taught Hebrew in Heidelberg. He issued his first mapping of Germany in 1529, after which he issued a call geographical information about Germany to scholars throughout the country. The response was better than hoped for, and included substantial foreign material, which supplied him with up to date, if not necessarily accurate maps for the issuance of his *Geographia* in 1540.

### Detailed Condition: