



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

(Selestat, Germany) Selestadium vulgo Schlestatt, civitas imperialis, in medio Alsatie optimo loco sita

Stock#: 77820
Map Maker: Munster
Date: 1560 circa
Place: Basel
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 13 x 9 inches
Price: \$ 125.00



Description:

Striking view of Selestat, from Munster's *Cosmographia*, first published in 1544. The woodblock view shows the then-German city in the Alsace region from along the River Ill, with many towers, houses, and mountains visible.

Above the map, the coat of arms of the Holy Roman Emperor is held by a flying figure. Selestat had been declared a Free Imperial City in 1217 following the decline of Frederick II, and it became a thriving economic center. Following 1520, the town itself started to decline when its local humanist school (which had previously housed Erasmus on his visits to the city) lost influence, and later troubles related to the Reformation disrupted the city's security.

Munster issued his first mapping of Germany in 1529, after which he issued a call for 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:

See-through to text on verso. Minor centerfold toning.