



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
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Scotia Antiqua, qualis pricis temporibus Romanis praesertim, Cognita suit quam in lucem eruere conabatur R Gordonius a Straloch M DC LIII [Ancient Scotland, as it was known in earlier times, particularly to the Romans, attempted to be brought to light by R. Gordonius of Straloch in 1653.]

Stock#: 93094
Map Maker: Blaeu

Date: 1653 circa
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 21.5 x 16.5 inches

Price: \$ 975.00



Description:

Robert Gordon's Map of Ancient Scotland embellished with Gold Leaf and Original Color

This beautiful example of Blaeu's map of Ancient Scotland appeared in the *Atlas Maior*. The map includes a second map of the Orcades and Shetlands, featuring two highly decorative cartouches.

The map is based on the original work of Robert Gordon of Straloch (1580-1661), a Scottish cartographer known for his talents as a poet, mathematician, antiquary, and geographer, as well as for his collection of music for the lute.

In 1641, Charles I wrote a letter directing Gordon "to reveis the saidis cairtiss," in order to complete the publication of an atlas of Scotland, which had been projected by Timothy Pont. By two Acts of the Scottish Parliament, Gordon was exempted from any form of military service, while the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland published a request to the clergy to afford him assistance.

Gordon's map was completed in 1648 and was published by Joan Blaeu of Amsterdam under the title *Theatrum Scotiae*. Second and third editions were published in 1655 and 1662, respectively. This atlas was said to be the first delineation of Scotland made from actual survey and measurement.



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Gordon also created other maps and revised many others, adding geographical descriptions and prefixing an introduction in Blaeu, providing a comprehensive view of the constitution and antiquities of the country. These dissertations were among the first attempts to settle the ancient history of Scotland.

Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color. Some toning and foxing. Miscreasing at the centerfold.