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[Hamburg] Hamburgum

Stock#: 96865
Map Maker: Braun / Hogenberg
Date: 1599
Place: Cologne
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 18.7 x 14.6 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

This is Braun & Hogenberg's second bird's-eye view of Hamburg, which reflects the city's evolution from a pastoral community to a bustling hub of commerce during the second half of the 16th Century.

This view of Hamburg offers a detailed representation of the city, likely informed by the work of David Frese and Heinrich von Rantzau. Hamburg is depicted at the meeting point of the Elbe and Alster Rivers, its security ensured by an array of canals and defensive walls. The initial core of the city is identifiable around the Domplatz, situated near the center-right of the engraving and adjacent to St. Peter's Cathedral. The image captures the Altstadt, or Old Town, as it appeared before the turn of the 17th century, densely populated and interlaced with narrow canals known as 'Fleeten,' lined by the storage buildings essential for trade.

By the end of the 16th century, the prominence of Hamburg in commerce is evident from the numerous vessels docked at its busy port. The engraving is also adorned with figures of what appear to be wealthy inhabitants in the foreground, adding a human element to the scene.

Hamburg shows the city's growth, spurred by Emperor Frederick I Barbarossa's grant of port rights in 1189, which exempted it from taxes on trade along the Lower Elbe. This advantage propelled Hamburg to become a significant trade center, known for supplying beer to the Hanseatic League.

Detailed Condition: