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Tsarkoi grad MoskvaUrbis Moskvae... [Plan of Moscow]

Stock#: 2871 
Map Maker: Blaeu
Date: 1662
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 19.5 x 15 inches
Price: SOLD

Description:

Exceptional old color example of Blaeu's rare Plan of Moscow. This most impressive plan of Moscow (Moskva) appeared in Blaeu's atlas for the first time in 1662. The map is believed to be derived from a Russian survey prepared at the orders of Boris Fyodorovich Godunov (c. 1551-1605), Tsar of Muscovy from 1598 onward, and was probably prepared prior to 1630. The original Russian plan has apparently not survived, and Blaeu may have used a copy made in 1610 for King Sigismund III of Poland. The plan as published by Blaeu, shows the old city which surrounds the Kremlin and the Kitai Gorod or Fortified City. The name Kremlin first appeared as Kreml' (or High Town) in an account of the fire in the town in 1331. It was founded in 1147 at the junction of two rivers, the Moskva and the Neglinnaya. As Moscow grew, the Kremlin became the royal, religious and secular heart of the city. Until Tsar Peter I transferred his seat of government to his new city of St Petersburg in 1713, it was the capital city. beyond the walls of Kitai Gorod, another section grew up, called Belgorod or White City, which was in 1584 after the death of Tsar Ivan the Terrible with a wall which spanned 6 miles and included 28 towers. A fine wide margined example in old color.

Detailed Condition: