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(Separately Published Ortelius Map) Gallia

Stock#: 64335
Map Maker: Ortelius / Postel
Date: 1585 circa
Place: Antwerp
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 20 x 14 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

An Exceptional Ortelius Rarity in Wonderful Condition. Van Den Broecke Estimates "Five or six copies have survived."

Proof state of this separately-issued map of France, published by Abraham Ortelius and drawn by Guillaume Postel. Van Den Broecke notes that this map was "never regularly included" in any edition of the *Theatrum* and that fewer than only five or six examples have survived.

According to Van Den Broecke, a single copy of the map exists "without the dotted lines indicating province and country borders, most probably a proof state". The present example of the map also lacks these dotted borders, and so can be considered the second known example of this proof state.

The map derives its cartography from Postel's two-woodblock map of France, which was published in Paris in 1570. It uses the same strapwork cartouche as Mercator's Zelandia, which was first published in 1585. Although it has been said that the cartouche here is a copy of that in the Mercator map, the opposite seems just as likely. The earliest appearance of the map in any Ortelius atlas was in a 1588S, as noted below.

Van Den Broecke (35) remarks:

Denucé mentions a 1598D edition (Plantin Museum, sign. A760) which contains this map. The copy described and shown by Meurer (p. 219, Figure 55) has no text on verso, and the same applies to my copies and to Stopp's copy of this map. I noticed a 1588S edition at Reiss Auctions spring 2005 which contained a copy of this map, but with the Spanish text normally given to Ort34. Apparently, it



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was sold for a limited time as a separate single sheet map. Also, a copy of the 1613 Dutch edition in the University Library of Amsterdam has the standard text usually found on Ort34.

As pointed out by Gittenberger (personal communication), the cartouche of this map is a close copy of Mercator's Zelandia map.

A fairly close copy of this map, but without hatching of the coat of arms, was included in Bouguereau 1594.

Detailed Condition:

Old outline hand-color. Small wormhole at the centerfold just below the bottom neatline.