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Nouveau Plan De La Ville De Rome Tire Pare Ordre Du Pape Par Mateo Gregoria De Romans Tres Utile Pour Les Voieurs

Stock#: 67763
Map Maker: Chatelain
Date: 1719
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 16.5 x 13 inches
Price: Not Available



Description:

A decorative map of Rome, with inset views of ten major churches and structures, including St. Peter's and the Vatican. A key identifies a number of buildings, which are shown on the map. Other insets as well as text add further information to the work. This work originates from Chatelain's monumental seven-volume *Atlas Historique*, one of the most famous and prolific works of the early 18th century.

The detail on this map is extensive. Nearly three hundred structures are shown individually out of three hundred and twelve indexed sights. Shown are tiny chapels, tall monuments, extensive fortresses, detailed basilicas, and much more, and the representation of these structures is fairly accurate. The most important buildings are shown in much greater detail in the insets. Another inset shows the surrounding region from the Mediterranean to the edge of the Apennines, with towns and rivers included. Text at the bottom names all the major artworks that can be found in the city, alongside their location and their authorship.

This map was explicitly targeted at people visiting the city from afar. These voyageurs would have been able to refer to this map in order to gain a better insight into the city, deciding which sights they would have wanted to visit. The church insets might have informed them as to which best-suited their tastes. The ingenious grid system would have helped them locate these landmarks more easily. They could have also used this work to decide which day trips they might have wanted to take from the city using the inset of the surrounding countryside, or decided what artworks they wanted to visit. While new landmarks have been built up over time, and other monuments destroyed, much of the eternal city remains the same and a



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twenty-first-century tourist using this map would be able to plan a successful trip to the city.

While some travel, especially religious, had always occurred throughout Europe, this map was published just when the Grand Tour was starting to become a rite of passage. Italy and Rome were considered to be the highlight of any Tour, epitomized by Dr. Samuel Johnson's quote, "A man who hath not been in Italy, is always conscious of an inferiority, from his not having seen what it is expected a man should see." Travelers were eager to have souvenirs of their travels, which created both large markets in the trades of both antiquities and maps. It was against this backdrop that the present map was produced.

The differences between this map and a typical twentieth-century pictorial map are surprisingly slim, and one almost expects to find advertisements for "the best pizzeria in town" on the verso. While there are some obvious stylistic differences that have evolved over time, for example the handwriting or the engraving of the river, the low-angled viewpoint and style of showing important individual buildings is strikingly modern. Seeing as modern pictorial maps tend to be produced for tourists, as was this one, this similarity perhaps becomes less surprising and provides an insight into how maps might best convey information.

Detailed Condition: