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Norumbega et Virginia

Stock#: 74254mp2
Map Maker: Metellus
Date: 1598
Place: Cologne
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size:
Price: SOLD



Description:

"Very Rare" - Burden 118

Important and rare antique engraved map of the East Coast of the present-day United States, published by Johannes Metellus in Cologne in 1598.

Metellus's map is based upon Cornelis Wytfliet's map of the prior year. Metellus, whose real name was Jean Matal, was an accomplished French Cartographer, who died in 1597. The maps were most likely finished by Conrad Loew, a pseudonym for Matthias Quad.

Some question has been raised as to whether Metellus' work predates the Wytfliet, given that Metellus died in 1597 and lived in Louvain prior to his death in Cologne. Burden surmises that Wytfliet's work was published first. The maps are largely similar, other than the omission of a few place names in the Metellus.

Burden (118) suggests that the present map proves that Wytfliet beat Metellus to the punch:

There have been questions raised about whether these maps in fact precede those of Wytfliet (see the Metellus Conibas map for more detail); however, this map possibly proves that the Wytfliet were in fact earlier. To the south-west of the city of Norumbega along the coast on the Wytfliet we find two distinct archipelagos identified by C.cle Los is/as and Archipelago. On the Metellus we find both names but only the former group of islands. Also in the southern part of the Outer Banks we have lost one Indian village and one river. Considering the fact that the source for the latter geography



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was the easily available Theodore de Bry-John White map of Virginia of 1590, it would seem that this series of maps was taken from the Wyttliet. See the first Metellus entry for a list of further editions. All issues have text on the back.

The Metellus map is by far the rarer of two, this being the only example we have ever offered for sale.

Detailed Condition:

Faint text show through from the verso.