



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

[Switzerland] Iodoco a Meggen Lucernati Praetorianum Praefecto . . . Helvetios olim vir clariss. nunc Suiceros, Gallorum gentem bellicosissimam Suisse eorum in omni Saeculo praeclare gesta testantur. . . . Romae M D LV

Stock#: 75408
Map Maker: Salamanca / Bos
Date: 1555
Place: Rome
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 24 x 17 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

The Earliest Surviving Modern Map of Switzerland

Rare early Lafreri School map of Switzerland, published in Rome by Antonio Salamanca.

Salamanca's map is drawn from the first edition of Sebastian Munster's 9 sheet map of Switzerland, which was drawn from the manuscript map of Aegidius Tschudi's map of Switzerland. However, neither the first edition of Munster's map, nor the original Tschudi manuscript have survived to modern times, making this Salamanca map the earliest surviving example of Tschudi's map.

Aegidius Tschudi (1505-1572), known foremost as a historian, is considered to be one of the pioneers of Swiss cartography. In 1528, he drew a map of Switzerland which is the earliest known map of the the whole of region. The map survived in manuscript form until 1538. when it was published with the printed title of *Nova Rhaetiae atque totius Helvetiae descriptio* by Munster. The Munster map survives only in a single example of the second edition, which was printed in 1560. The Munster map is also oriented with South at the top (as are most later Tschudi copies, such as Abraham Ortelius' map), making Salamanca's work all the more interesting.

Tschudi's map was the first time the entire area of what was later known as Switzerland was shown on a single map. For more than half a century, the map was considered the best representation of the area and was therefore recut or re-engraved many times.



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

**[Switzerland] Iodoco a Meggen Lucernati Praetorianum Praefecto . . . Helvetios olim
vir clariss. nunc Suiceros, Gallorum gentem bellicosissimam Suisse eorum in omni
Saeculo praeclare gesta testantur. . . . Romae M D LV**

Tschudi produced his map of Switzerland in part based on his own harrowing expeditions through the Alps. Tschudi gave a manuscript version to his former teacher Heinrich Glarean, who in turn passed it on to Sebastian Münster, who printed a woodcut version of the map. A friend of Tschudi's, Jost von Meggen brought one of Münster's two woodcut editions of the map to Rome when he was appointed head of the Papal Guards in 1546 (Karrow pp.547-550). At some point, the map found its way to the workshop of Antonio Salamanca, who produced this edition, which was later copied by Antonio Lafreri.

Rarity

At the time of Walter Brumer's article on Tuschdi's map, Blumer reported that the Salamanca map was known in only 1 example, at the University Library at Basel. However, since that time, additional examples are known to survive.

The present example is apparently the only example of the map to come to market in many decades.

Detailed Condition: