



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

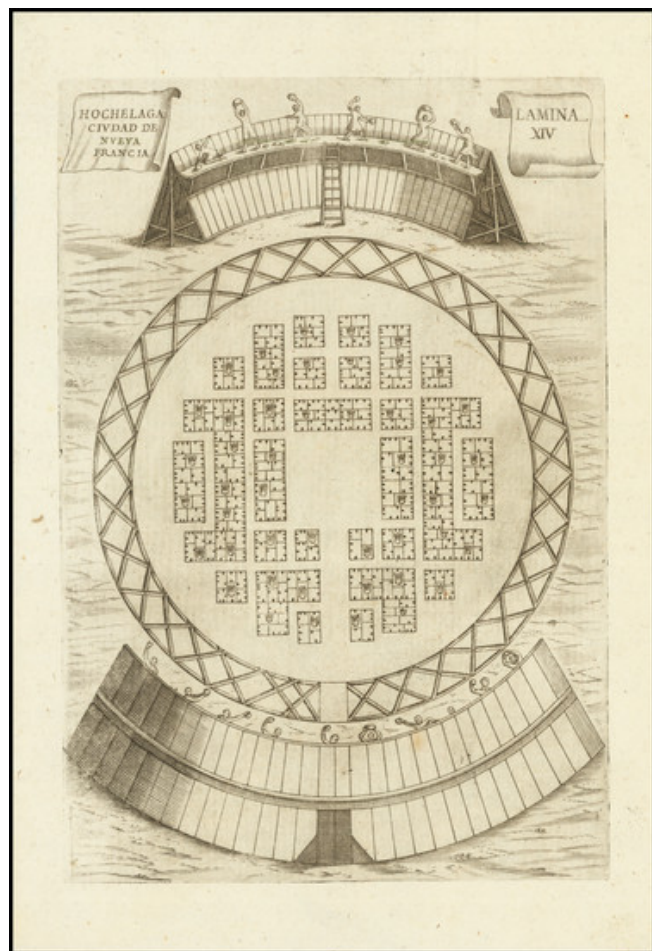
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(Montreal) Hochelaga Ciudad de Nueva Francia

Stock#: 77909
Map Maker: Caramuel y Lobkowitz
Date: 1678
Place: Vigevano
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 7.5 x 10 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Rare Edition of the First North American City Plan

Very rare engraved copy of Ramusio's map of Montreal, the first printed plan of a town in North America, published in the important Spanish polymath Juan Carmuel's *Arquitectura Civil Recta y Oblicua*, then the most important Spanish treatise on architecture ever published.

The map shows the village of Hochelaga on the island of Montreal, visited by Jacques Cartier in 1535. The village was near a mountain the explorer named Mount Royal ("Monte Royal"). His account was published in the third volume of Ramusio's *Delle navigationi et viaggi* in 1556.



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The map includes many of the things described by Cartier. The lodges within the fort are exceedingly symmetrical, with each family unit indicated by a fire. These differentiate between single-family and multiple-family or extended family dwellings.

It is not clear who the Hochelagans were although they were most likely either Huron or Iriquois. The village was gone by the time Champlain arrived.

This map was the focus of "Articulo VII" in the *Arquitectura*. This section details American cities, and curiously for a Spanish-language text, it chooses to focus on Hochelaga, not one of the many cities discovered by conquistadors. The text details the fact that this city lacks temples, and for all intents and purposes, lacks deities. This text, diverging from its architectural focus, appears to praise the citizens for this, as this is apparently superior to worshipping pagan non-Christian gods.

Rarity

Caramuel's plan of Hochelaga (Montreal) is rare on the market. Only two complete examples of the *Arquitectura Civil Recta y Oblicua* have appeared at auction in the past 20 years.

Detailed Condition: