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Septentrionalium Regionum Descrip.

Stock#: 78308
Map Maker: Ortelius
Date: 1587
Place: Antwerp
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 19 x 14 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Ortelius' Map of the North Atlantic

Nice example of Abraham Ortelius's important early map of the North Atlantic, extending from Scandinavia and the polar regions in the east to the mythical Islands of the North Atlantic, Greenland, Iceland, and North America in the west.

Engraved by Frans Hogenberg, Ortelius' map of the North Atlantic is one of the most interesting maps to appear in an atlas. The map was influential in its treatment of the Arctic regions, incorporating place names and detail from Mercator's 1569 wall map, Zeno's infamous 1558 map, and Olaus Magnus's 1539 works. For example, the mainland of America is depicted with the placename Estotilant, and the map includes a number of mythical islands, including Frisland, Drogeo and Icaria. The map incorporates the mythical four islands of the Arctic, one of which supposedly has pygmies. The map has an excellent early outline of the Scandinavian coast, bordering the Mare Congelatum, the "frozen waters."

The map includes sea monsters and sailing ships. This example is from the 1581 French edition of Ortelius's *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*, the first modern atlas.

Detailed Condition:

French text on verso.