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[Alhambra / Granada] Alhama

Stock#: 77312
Map Maker: Braun & Hogenberg
Date: 1593 circa
Place: Cologne
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 18 x 13.5 inches
Price: \$ 475.00



Description:

Good example of Braun & Hogenberg's view of Alhama de Granada, from Braun & Hogenberg's *Civitates Orbis Terrarum*, the most important book of town plans and views published in the 16th Century.

The view shows a dramatic rocky landscape in front of the city, which is embedded in the Valley of the Marchan. In the foreground, the road to Granada can be seen. The Spanish city of Alhama de Granada is still known for its baths today. It was the Romans who discovered the hot springs and built the first thermal bath in the town, which was known then as Artigi. In the 8th century, the Moors conquered the Tolosan Kingdom of the Visigoths and gave Artigi the new name Alhama, derived from the Arabic word al-hamma meaning "hot water". After the end of the Reconquista in the 15th century, Alhama de Granada became a popular destination of the Spanish nobility. Alhama is in the southwest of the province of Granada and is enclosed by the Alhama River.

The text on the verso translates as follows:

Alhama is not the least of Spain's cities and is seven miles away from the splendid city of Granada. [...] The city and its surroundings have been richly endowed by nature: considering its fertile soil, high mountains, valleys and rivers, this place lacks nothing. And yet all these gifts are far surpassed by the warm baths that spring up there [...]. These baths are considered, not unjustly, one of the most amazing wonders in the whole of Spain.

Detailed Condition: