



A 16th century woodcut map of the British Isles

MUNSTER, Sebastian.

Engellandt mit dem anstossenden Reich Schottlandt so vorzeiten Albion und Britannia haben geheissen.

Basle, Sebastian Petri, c.1588, German text edition. Contemporary colour. Woodcut, sheet 330 x 410mm.

£1,600

A woodblock map of the British Isles, orientated with north to the right, first published in 1588, the year of the Spanish Armada. It is based on the Ortelius map of 1570, although the limitations of woodcut result in a more archaic look, with far fewer names despite saving space by excluding the north of Scotland and west of Ireland. Contemporary colour is extremely rare on Munster's maps.

SHIRLEY: British Isles 1477-1650, 148.

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