



## Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

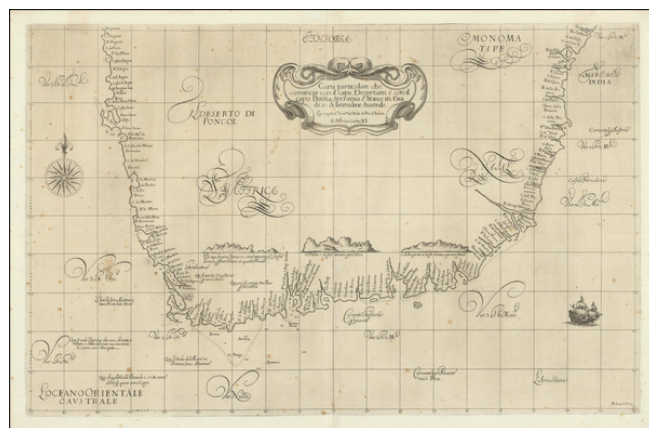
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### (South Africa) Carta Particolare che Comincia con il Capo Degortam e con il Capo Buona Speranza e Finisce in Gradi 27 di Latitudine Austral

**Stock#:** 81437  
**Map Maker:** Dudley  
**Date:** 1646  
**Place:** Florence  
**Color:** Uncolored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 29 x 18.5 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



#### Description:

#### ***The Earliest Obtainable Sea Chart of South Africa.***

Fine example of Robert Dudley's chart of the coast of South Africa, showing the region in fantastic detail. Hailing from Dudley's *Arcano del Mare*, this is among the most important maps of the region published and changed Europe's ideas of the routes to the East Indies.

As noted regarding Dudley's atlas by Parry in *Printing and The Mind of Man*:

*"In the genre of sea charts it is Sir Robert Dudley (1573-1649) who made the greatest impression among the English cartographers of the seventeenth century, particularly in his charting of the East Indian archipelago . . . the first atlas to contain detailed charts of the whole East Indian and Philippine archipelagoes."*

The map limits itself to coastal detail throughout, showing that it was to be used as a navigational piece. Three profiles of major capes are shown, including the Cape of Good Hope, The False Cape, and the Cape of Agulhas. A compass rose and sailing ship are shown.

#### **Robert Dudley**

Dudley's interest in the Far East began in his youth, and he backed Benjamin Wood's 1596 expedition to Southeast Asia which ended in a shipwreck on the Burmese coast. "A man of enormous talents, ranging from adventurer and explorer to scientist, mathematician, naval architect, navigator and cartographer," Dudley was the illegitimate son of the Earl of Leicester, the favorite of Elizabeth I and brother-in-law to



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Thomas Cavendish. In 1594 Dudley sailed with Sir Francis Drake to Guiana and Trinidad in search of El Dorado and two years later received a knighthood for his part in the Earl of Essex's raid on Cadiz.

Dudley eventually settled in Florence and in a naval capacity entered the service of the Grand Dukes of Tuscany. Dudley's *Arcano del Mare* was the first nautical atlas published by an Englishman and one of the most ambitious and beautiful cartographic works ever produced. The plates were engraved by Antonio Lucini, who claimed that twelve years and 5,000 pounds of copper were expended in the preparation of the plates. The resulting charts are among the most distinctive productions of early cartography.

**States**

The majority of Dudley maps are known in two states, comparable with the two editions of the *Arcano del Mare* published in 1646 and 1661. The maps in the latter edition generally note the volume in which they appear in the title (e.g., Lo6o for the maps of the Americas). While we have been unable to locate an example of this map that shows this characteristic, we hypothesize that a later state exists, making this the first state of the map.

**Detailed Condition:**

Foxing. Tear in paper adjacent to Os Morros bay.