



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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The Province of New Jersey Divided into East and West, commonly called the Jerseys

Stock#: 26104
Map Maker: Faden
Date: 1777
Place: New York
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG-
Size: 32 x 23 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

First state of Faden's map of New Jersey, based upon Bernard Ratzer's surveys in 1769.

William Faden's map of New Jersey is based upon Ratzer surveys in 1769, which were conducted to resolve a 100 year long dispute between New York and New Jersey. Faden's map was the first to show New Jersey's northern border with New York, and also depicts the area as known to George Washington prior to the battle of Monmouth, and a fortified Valley Forge. The most important map of the area from the Revolutionary period, it was also the largest map of New Jersey that had ever been produced.

The map was the grandest representation of the colony made up to that time, taking in the entire breadth of the future state of New Jersey, as well as the Hudson Valley, most of Long Island, eastern Pennsylvania and all of Delaware Bay. It captures the state's rich topography, including the Jersey Highlands and the



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Palisades in the north and the broad Pine Barrens and coastal marshes in the south. The county divisions, major roads and towns are all carefully depicted, indicating that New Jersey was, by the standards of the time, heavily populated, having over 120,000 inhabitants.

For this map, Faden has supplemented Ratzer's work with surveys of the northern part of the state made by Gerard Bancker. Bancker's surveys reached Faden by way of John Murray, the Earl of Dunmore, the former governor of Virginia, who was given a draft by Bancker when he stopped in at New York on his way back to London.

The two lines bisecting the state are the boundary lines between the archaic colonies of East and West Jersey. In 1664, Charles II granted the New Jersey charter jointly to Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret. Berkeley sold his share to John Fenwick, who in turn, passed it on to a consortium that included William Penn. The king elected to renew only Carteret's charter to the colony, and from 1676 the province was split into two colonies. One of the lines present on this map is "Keith's Line" referring to the 1687 demarcation of the boundary by surveyor George Keith. While the two colonies were reunited under a royal governor in 1702, certain private land ownership questions predicated on the partition necessitated that an internal line of division persist, which was re-demarcated as the "Lawrence Line" in 1743.

Faden's map is by far the most precise and detailed map of the period and remained the standard geographic representation of the state until well into the 1800s. Faden's attention to the esthetic appeal of his map is also apparent. The fine beauty of engraving is emphasized by the cartouche in the upper-left corner, where a farmhouse can be seen between two graceful trees, and also by the ranges of hills delicately shaded as if illuminated from the northwest.

Following the death of his partner Thomas Jefferys, William Faden assumed sole control England's leading commercial map making establishment, with a reputation for the finest quality engraved maps and atlases. Faden's fine engravings, in fact, made him one of the greatest cartographers of the 18th century. Faden's talent for mapmaking was such that he was named official geographer to the king in 1775, two years before he produced this map, a landmark in the cartography of New Jersey.

The *Province of New Jersey* was included in Faden's North American Atlas, a large folio work that is the most rare and important cartographic record of the early years of the American Revolution. All of the maps contained in the atlas possessed a wealth of topographical detail based on information obtained by first-hand observation, a factor that makes them historical documents of great importance. Faden's map was much consulted during the Revolution, and represents the best state of knowledge regarding New Jersey in the 18th century.

A seminal Colonial American map.



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Detailed Condition:

Upper right corner torn and repaired on verso. Discoloration and some loss of paper along centerfold at the right and left of the map, which has been restored in facsimile, with minimal paper loss. Soiling along centerfold and left margin. Minor repair