



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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[Cyprus & Holy Land Sea Chart]

Stock#: 30282
Map Maker: Van Keulen / Loots
Date: 1705 circa
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 10.5 x 15 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Rare sea chart of Cyprus and the neighboring coasts, which was apparently made up and added to a Gerard Van Keulen Sea Atlas, here offered with two pages of text which apparently accompanied this curious chart.

The chart consists of the lower right section of the Johannes Loots / Gerard Van Keulen Sea chart of the Eastern Mediterranean, *Nieuwe Pascaard van t' Tweede gedeelte der Middellansche Zee Tusschen t' I. Malta en Alexandretta . . .* (with title repeated in English, French & Italian), with an added border using other parts of the chart.

The Loots / Van Keulen Sea Charts are of the utmost rarity. Because the title is not present, it is not possible to determine whether the chart is from a Johannes Loots edition of the map or a Gerard Van



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Keulen edition. The chart is illustrated in Zacharkis (1803/1186) and attributed to Gerard Van Keulen, although it is certainly one of the charts acquired by Van Keulen from Loots (see below).

Johannes Loots (1665 - 1726) was a publisher of sea charts who was active from the 1693 until his death in 1726. Loots began his career as an apprentice to Hendrick Doncker and later set up his own shop on Nieuwebrugsteeg in Amsterdam, in 1693. Between 1695 and 1698, Loots, Claes de Vries (a surveyor-cartographer) and Antoni de Winter (an engraver) entered into a joint venture to produce 200 sea charts on a Mercator Projection (Van Keulen Cartography, p 46). The plans were advertised in the *Amsterdamsche Courant* in August and October 1698 and several charts offered separately. However, the venture only produced 120 charts (Van Keulen Cartography, p. 47), and the partnership dissolved in 1707, with Claas de Vries selling at least 17 charts, including 16 large plates of the English Channel and a smaller plate of the Hull River, to Gerard Van Keulen on September 24, 1707 for 374 guilders) (Van Keulen Cartography, p. 16).

In 1696, Loots published a pirated group of charts of the Baltic, originally published by Swedish chart maker Peter Gedda in 1694. Loots published the Gedda charts under the name *Paskaertboek van de Noord-en Oost-zee*. Gedda would later file suit against Loots to block the publication. It would seem probable that the present chart was derived from the information first published by Gedda, although the map does not appear to be one of the pirated charts.

In 1707, Loots sold 100 charts on a Mercator Projection to Gerard Van Keulen. In 1707, Loots would appear to have purchased the plates of Jacob Robijn, which included the charts originally engraved by Arent Roggeveen for his *Burnng Fen*. These include a rare set of charts of the North American and Caribbean Coastlines, which were a significant improvement over the contemporary sea charts issued by Van Loon and Goos (for whom Roggeveen had originally made the charts).

At some point, he or his widow must have re-acquired the plates, as his widow and her brother, Isaac Swigerts, continued to publish later editions of some of the charts until 1750, when Swigerts sold the remainder of the Loots charts to Johannes Van Keulen II. These plates were re-engraved to include the Van Keulen name thereafter. At the time of his death, the inventory notes The inventory of Isaac Swigerts estate includes 10,816 various maps, presumably, his unsold inventory. During the life of Loots sea charts, it is known that some of the charts were copied by both Seller and Grierson.

While an inventory of Loots shop included 464 copperplates, the number of plates known to have been published by Loots is far fewer and it would appear that this inventory included multi-plate charts and non-cartographic material.



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Detailed Condition:

Fragment of large sea chart, with extra borders pasted to the left side to finish the map