



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

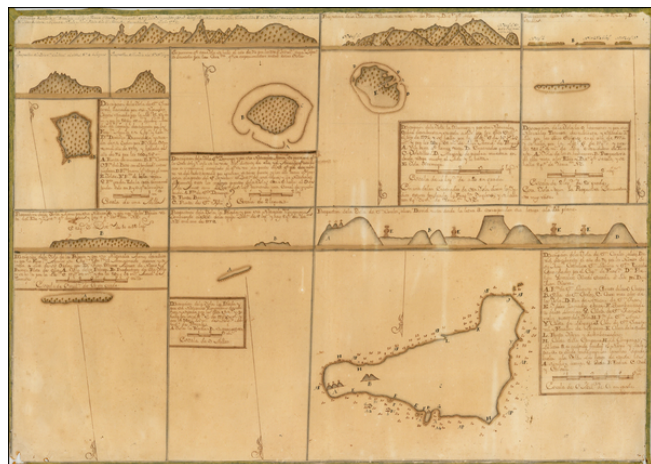
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Descriptions and Perspectives of the Islands of La Hermosa, Los 3 Hermanos, Santo Domingo (alias Morea), San Christoval, San Carlos (alias David), Pelada and Manu.

Stock#: 35510hs
Map Maker: Boenechea
Date: 1774 - 1775
Place: n.p.
Color: Pen & Ink with Wash Color
Condition: VG
Size:
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine early set of manuscript coastal charts and profiles of the islands of PLa Hermosa, Los 3 Hermanos, Santo Domingo (alias Morea), San Christoval, San Carlos (alias David), Pelada and Manu, prepared from observations made during the two expeditions of Domingo Boenechea aboard the Aguila on behalf of the Spanish Viceroy of Peru between 1772 and 1775.

The chart was prepared under the direction of Boenechea during his two expeditions to Tahiti and the neighboring islands, pursuant to the order of the Spanish Crown to settle and colonize the islands, following their re-discovery by Samuel Wallis in 1767.

It is believed that the Island of Tahiti may have been first discovered either by Juan Fernandez in 1576-77 or by Pedro Fernandes de Queiros on February 10, 1606. However, the first European to visit Tahiti was Lieutenant Samuel Wallis aboard the HMS Dolphin in June 1767, followed by Louis-Antoine de Bouganville in April 1768. In July 1769, Captain James Cook arrived in Tahiti to observe the Transit of the Venus across the sun for the Royal Astronomical Society.

Following these early contacts, the Viceroy of Peru, Manuel de Amat y Juniet organized an expedition to settle and colonize Tahiti in 1772. Don Domingo Boenechea sailed from Callao, Peru on September 26, 1772, on the frigate Aguila to establish a colony on Tahiti, which the Spaniards named Amat after the Viceroy. On sailing through the Tuamotu Archipelago, Boenechea discovered an island on October 28 which he named San Simon y Judas (Tauere), and on October 31, another which he named San Quintin (Haraiki). On November 1 he encountered Anaa, which he named Todos Santos; and on November 6 he sighted Meetia, which received the name of San Cristobal. On November 8 he arrived at Tahiti, which he



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named Amat. After making a survey, he sailed for Moorea, to which he gave the extra name of Santo Domingo. On his return, he sighted the coast of Chile on January 21, 1773; but his report was dated March 8, 1773, in the port of Valparaiso.

After his return and report to Viceroy Amat, Boenechea was ordered to make a second voyage aboard the Aguila, accompanied by the Jupiter, with lieutenant Don Thomas Gayangos as second in command. Boenechea left Callao on September 20, 1774, taking with them two priests, who would establish a Catholic Mission and colony on Tahiti. On October 29 they sighted an island which was named San Narciso (Tatakoto), and two days later, the island of San Simon (Tauere). On November 1 two islands were sighted which were named Los Martires (Tekokoto) and San Juan (Hikueru). The island of San Quintin (Haraiki) was seen, and at Todos Santos (Anaa) they traded with the natives for coconuts and artifacts. On November 13 they sighted San Cristobal (Meetia), and the next day Amat (Tahiti). After some exploration of the coast, they anchored on November 27 in a harbor which they named Santa Cruz de Ohatutira in the Tautira district of the island. They met with the local chief, Vehiatua, and land was selected for the homestead and the house built for the priests.

After settling the priests, Boenechea sailed northwest for Orayatea (Raiatea). He passed Tetiaroa, which he renamed Los Tres Ermanos (Hermanos); sighted Huahine, which he named La Hermosa; and saw Raiatea, which he named La Princesa. Maurua was renamed San Antonio, and Borabora received the new name of San Pedro. The ships returned to Tahiti, where Boenechea died on January 26, 1775. Gayangos thereafter discovered the island of Raivavae in the Austral group which he named Santa Rosa, before returning to Callao on April 8, 1775.

The Aguila was next sent on a third voyage, under the command of Don Cayetano de Langara, to carry supplies to the priests at Tahiti, sailing from Callao on September 27, 1775 and arriving at Amat (Tahiti) on October 30, 1775. The Aguila anchored at the harbor of Santa Cruz de Ohatutira and found that two priests, Father Geronimo Clota and Father Narciso Gonzalez, who had been landed on the previous voyage, had not been able to establish a mission and had suffered from lack of protection. Langara took the priests on board and sailed on November 12, 1776, ending the Spanish attempt at colonization of Tahiti.

Detailed Condition:

Silked edges. Minor soiling, with some minor tears and abrasions. Minor holes in the corners.