



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

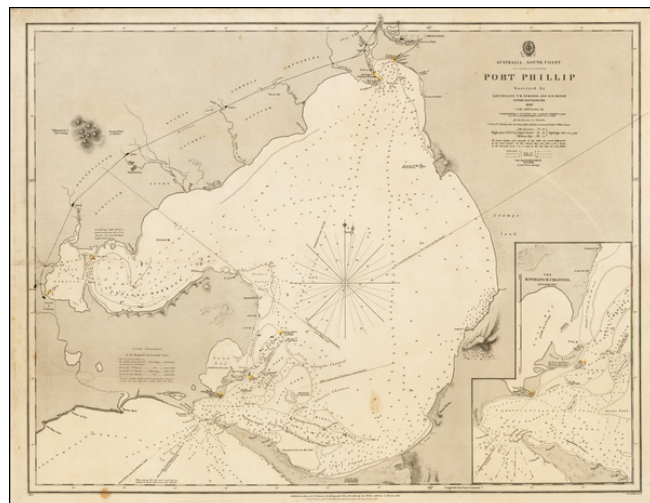
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Port Phillip Surveyed by Lieutenants T.M. Symonds and H.R. Henry of the H.M.S Rattlesnake 1836 with additions by Commander L.C. Wickham and Captain Stokes in 1842 and Mr. C.J. Polkinghorne, Mastr. R.N. in 1856

Stock#: 35934
Map Maker: British Admiralty
Date: 1858
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: See Description
Size: 24 x 18 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Nice example of the 1858 edition of the first nautical chart of Port Phillip, originally published by the British Hydrographical Office in 1836.

The chart corresponds to the earliest settlement of Melbourne and the Port Phillip area, having first been prepared on the same trip that delivered Captain William Lonsdale to Port Phillip to assume command of the region.

The chart shows lighthouses, soundings, channels, sand shoals, swamps, mountains and other coastal features, with a larger inset map of the entrance to the bay.

In 1797, George Bass became the first European to enter Bass Strait, the passage between the Australian mainland and Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania). In 1802, John Murray in the *Lady Nelson* entered Port Phillip, followed shortly thereafter by Matthew Flinders.

In 1803, Charles Grimes, the deputy surveyor-general of New South Wales, traveled to Port Phillip to conduct the first official survey. He found the area inhospitable and recommended against settlement. Despite his recommendations, fearing that the French would attempt to settle the area, the Governor of New South Wales sent Colonel David Collins with a party of 300 convicts to establish a settlement at Port Phillip at the site of the present day Sorrent. Finding a lack of fresh water, in May 1804, Collins moved the settlement to Tasmania, establishing Hobart.



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In 1824, Hamilton Hume and William Hovell traveled overland to Corio Bay, where they found good grazing land. But it was another ten years before Edward Henty, a Tasmanian grazier, established an illegal sheep-run on crown land at Portland, in what is now western Victoria, in 1834. John Batman, a successful farmer in northern Tasmania, also desired more grazing land. He entered Port Phillip Bay in May 1835, landing at Indented Head. He explored the area around the Bay, including the area north of Melbourne.

Batman and John Pacoe Fawcner both had designs on settling Port Phillip in 1835 and began to settle in the area. In September 1836, the Port Phillip District was established, with Captain William Lonsdale appointed as the first head of the region. Lonsdale arrived at Port Phillip on board HMS Rattlesnake. They anchored at the south end of the Bay on September 27 1836, where Hobson sent out a smaller boat to conduct survey work, which marked the commencement of the work in the creation of this chart.

Among the British Naval Officers contributing to the chart were Commander J.C. Wickham and Captain Stokes. John Lort Stokes (1812-1885), while serving as Lieutenant and later a Captain, participated in a broad survey of Australian coasts and waters conducted on HMS Beagle under the command of John Clements Wickham whose illness led to Stokes being given the command of the Beagle and the responsibility for the survey the following year. Upon his return to England, Stokes wrote a popular account of the survey Discoveries in Australia, with an account of the coasts and rivers explored and surveyed during the voyage of the Beagle, 1837-1843 which was published in 1846.

Detailed Condition:

Minor soiling. Lighthouses are colored