



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Hong Kong surveyed by Captn. Sir Edward Belcher, in H.M.S. Sulphur 1841

Stock#: 40346dc
Map Maker: British Admiralty
Date: 1843 (1846)
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 36 x 24 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

The first printed map of Hong Kong, first published in 1843 by the British Admiralty Chart of Hong Kong, based upon the surveys of Sir Edward Belcher.

Belcher's survey is the first large format map or sea chart of Hong Kong. On January 26, 1841, Edward Belcher and his men were the first of the British fleet to land on Possession Point at the north shore of Hong Kong for the British Crown. He subsequently made the first British survey of Hong Kong harbor. While the map is dated 1841, the first state of the map was not published until May 1843.

This is the third state of the map, which was revised in 1845, and again in 1846. The following differences in the area around Victoria are noted between the 1843 and the 1845 state:

- "British Settlement" is shown
- "Road cut by the engineers" is shown, but pre-dating the appearance of the town
- Victoria Peak is referred to as "Mount Possession"
- Hong Kong "Harbour" is named -- all subsequent editions reference Hong Kong Road
- The northwest coastline around Victoria is changed significantly in the 1845 state.
- Roughly a dozen new place names around Victoria appear for the first time on the 1845 state.

The map was again revised in 1846. We note the following changes:

- Lantao Island is significantly revised and now has topographical details
- Chungyue Island is significantly revised and now has topographical details
- Peang-Chow Island and Cheang Clow Ching Island appear for the first time
- The shape of Cowecho Island is significantly revised



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- Chow-Coong-Poong Island and Ny-Coo-Chow Island appear for the first time
- Chung Chow Island is significantly revised and now has topographical details

The chart was re-issued on a number of occasions over the next 35 years or more; however, all states of the map are scarce on the market.

This is the first time we have ever seen the 1846 state offered for sale.

Detailed Condition:

Minor repaired tear at left margin, just entering printed image.