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Nieuw Amsterdam op t Eylant Manhattans

Stock#: 40494
Map Maker: Blaeu
Date: 1652 circa (??)
Place: n.p.
Color: Color
Condition: VG
Size: 12 x 3 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fascinating example of what purports to be the second earliest printed view of New York City.

The present example is printed on paper which does not appear to be 17th Century and the quality of the printing and other details strongly suggest that this example was made to deceive, perhaps in the late 19th or early 20th Century.

This view shows the southern tip of Manhattan, then New Amsterdam, as it appeared during the period of Dutch control of the City. The view is most accurately dated based upon the building on the far left, built around April of 1652, and the lack of any protective walls, which were built in 1653.

The view is most likely drawn from a painting attributed to Augustin Hermann, a cartographer and illustrator of Bohemian descent who settled in New York (New Amsterdam) in the 1640s and whose map of the Chesapeake region is among the holy grails for regional collectors.

It is believed that Blaeu engraved and published the view independently as *Nieuw Amsterdam op t eyland Manhattans* around 1653. It was later incorporated by Nicholas Visscher in his map of New England in 1655.

On close examination, we have concluded that this example is most likely not an original 17th Century view, but a more modern production. There is no plate mark and certain flaws in the image suggest a later creation date.

Detailed Condition: