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**Chart of the Coasts of South America From Rio de la Plata to Cape Horn, And From
Cape Horn to Valparayso, Including The Isles of Juan Fernandes. Published by W.
Faden, Geographer to the King and to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales No. 5. Charing
Cross. Jan.y 1st 1802.**

Stock#: 42169sh
Map Maker: Faden

Date: 1802
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 42 x 32 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

The "First Correct Delineation of a Great Part of the Shores" of South America, based upon the most important Spanish Scientific Expedition of the 18th Century.

First state of this rare separately issued English sea chart of the southern coastlines of South America, published in London by William Faden in 1802.

A remarkable large format map of the coast of South America, apparently drawn primarily from the work of Malaspina during his time in command of *Descubierta* and *Atrevida*, twin corvettes of the Spanish Navy, custom-designed as identical special exploration and scientific research vessels. Both ships were built at



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the same time for the Malaspina Expedition.

Under the command of Alessandro Malaspina (*Descubierta*) and José de Bustamante y Guerra (*Atrevida*) the two vessels sailed from Spain to the Pacific Ocean, conducting a thorough examination of the internal politics of the American Spanish Empire and the Philippines.

The chart extends from Buenos Ayres to the Diego Ramirez Islands south of Cape Horn, back north to Valparaiso, Santiago and the Isles of Juan Fernandes, highlightling Carteret's and Magellan's tracks through these islands. Along the majority of the coastline, the tracks of Captain James Cook in 1773-75 are shown, along with Anson (1742).

Of primary note are the explorations and tracks of the Malaspina Expedition. Malaspina's expedition was the most important voyage of discovery dispatched by Spain in the 18th century. It had two primary goals, the first being to increase geographic and scientific knowledge in general, the second being to check on the status of Spain's vast empire, especially along the west coast of North America, where the Russians and the British were expanding their influence. Modeled after the voyages of James Cook, the Malaspina expedition was conducted in a highly scientific manner. Numerous scientists from many fields were among the crew. Indigenous peoples, such as the Tlingit and Tongan, were studied by the expedition's ethnographers.

The *Descubierta* and *Atrevida* sailed from Cadiz on July 30, 1789, stopping first at Montevideo on the Río de la Plata, then sailing south along the coast of Patagonia and visiting the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas). After rounding Cape Horn the expedition stopped at several Chilean ports and surveyed the Juan Fernández Islands. The two corvettes sailed north separately, surveying and mapping the coast between Peru and Mexico, where they arrived at the end of March 1790, before heading north toward California and Alaska.

The map includes a number of large insets, and provides a fine accounting of the known and unknown coastlines.

The map is referenced as one of the source maps utilized by Spix & Martius during their travels in South America.

The following description of the chart appeared in *The Critical Review; or Annals of Literature*. Vol XXXIV. . . . London: Printed By and For S. Hamilton . . . 1802, in the Review of Maps and Charts, section, at page



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585-86.

***Chart of the Coasts of South America, from Rio de la Plata to Cape Horn, and from Cape Horn to
Valparayso, including the Isles of Juaff Pernandes. Two Sheets. 15s. Faden.***

To the title of this chart is annexed the following information:

The Spanish chart from which almost the whole of the present is a faithful copy has been geometrically surveyed by royal order in the years 1789, 90, 94, and 95 ; and presented to his Catholic majesty in 1798 by Don Juan de Langara, minister of marine. That excellent original extends only from the parallel of 36° 30' of south latitude to Cape Horn, and goes not beyond the meridian of 76° 42' west of Greenwich. A greater extension given to this copy in latitude and longitude has enabled us to insert the Isles of Juan Fernandes, which are of some interest to our navigators in the South Sea. We have added, besides, various plans of harbours and roads, appearances of land, tracks of ships, with their soundings, &c. and several other particulars. The improvements made on the south coast of Tierra del Fuego, and omitted by the Spanish hydrographer, might be equally mentioned, could their small importance make them remarkable in a series of discoveries which so eminently increase our geographical knowledge.

The Spanish survey here mentioned must be that by Malespina, whose name, we understand, is, on account of some slight difference or jealousy, affectedly passed in silence by the Spanish council of marine. The present chart is extremely interesting, as it is founded on the first correct delineation of a great part of the shores of the new continent; and it varies considerably from the charts and maps before published. In the first sheet there are plans and views of Juan Fernandes, &c. with a small chart of the north part of Saint George's Bay, and others of Sea-Bear Bay and Port Saint Elena. The southern sheet also contains several views of land and plans of ports. A remarkable feature of the southern part is the large island of Campana, lat. 480, and the Campana channel, which divides it from the main land of New Chili.

A later edition of the chart exists, published in 1821, in the National Library of Brazil and John Carter Brown Library. Eleven of the insets were retained in the 1821 publication of this chart, except for "Berkley's Sound called by the Spaniards Puerto de la Soledad and by the French Baie d'Accaron," which was replaced by "Berkley Sound (in Falkland Island.) ... by A. Robson. 1819."

The Faden chart is extremely rare. OCLC locates only the British Library and John Carter Brown copies of



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the 1802 edition.

A references to the chart appears in *Mapoteca Colombiana*, the *Catalog of the New York State Library* (1855-56, Vol 3, p.80) and *Katalog der Commerz-Bibliothek* in Hamburg (1864), however, the survival of these examples is unknown.

The first example of this highly important chart we have seen and quite possibly the first appearance on the market in many decades.

Detailed Condition:

Minor marginal restoration near the mouth of the Rio de la Plata.