



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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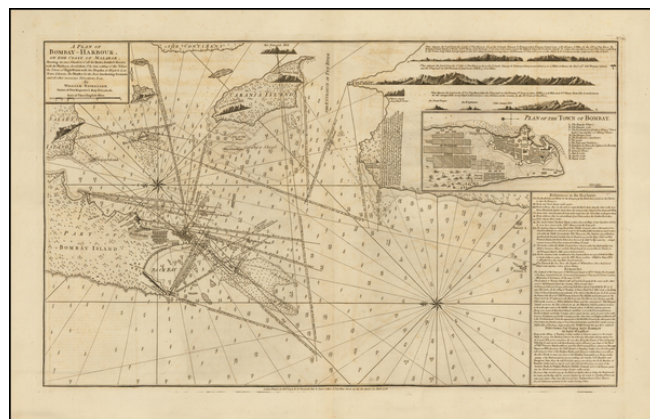
(858) 551-8500
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A Plan of Bombay-Harbour, on the Coast of Malabar, Shewing the true Situation of all the Rocks, Sands & Shoals, with the Marks to Avoid them, The true setting of the Tides the times of High Water with the Depths at High & Low Water. Likewise the Marks for the Best Anchoring Grounds. . . 1778

Stock#: 44200kb
Map Maker: Sayer & Bennett / Nicholson

Date: 1778
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 19 x 31.5 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

The First Modern Chart of Mumbai (Bombay) Harbor

Fine example of the first edition of William Nicholson's charting of Bombay Harbor, published in 1778 by Sayer & Bennett.

The map covers from Salsette Island to the continent south to Hunary Island. There is a detailed plan of the city of Bombay as well as several coastal profile views in the upper right quadrant. This is arguably the largest and finest obtainable nautical chart of Bombay Harbor to appear in the 18th century.

The map offers rich detail including countless depth soundings, notes on the sea floor, commentary on reefs, rhumb lines, shoals, place names and a wealth of other practical information for the mariner. Though most charts in the East-India Pilot were derived from earlier maps prepared for Jean-Baptiste d'Apres de Manneville's 1745 *Neptune Oriental*, this particular chart is a new and uniquely British production.

Cartographically, the map is derived from surveys by Captain William Nicholson and Captain Watson. Nicholson, master of the *HMS Elizabeth*, made a survey of Bombay Harbor and coast of Malabar in 1763, creating a monumental 8 sheet of the Harbor in 1763. The original map is known in a single example, of which only 7 of the 8 sheets have survived. In about 1780, William Herbert produced a chart entitled *A Reduced Chart of Bombay Harbour to serve as an Index for the large one of eight sheets by Wm. Nicholson, Master of the H.M.S. Elizabeth*.



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This chart represents a massive leap forward in the charting of the Bay, significantly improving upon prior charts by Van Keulen and Manneville, as well as Samuel Thornton's *Chart of Bombay*.

Detailed Condition: