



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
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**(Xiamen) China - East Coast -- Amoy Inner Harbor Surveyed By Edward Wilds Master,
R.N. Assisted by Henry R. Harris and George Stanley, Masters, R.N. H.M.S. Swallow
1883. . . .**

Stock#: 44320
Map Maker: British Admiralty
Date: 1864 (1890)
Place:
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG-
Size: 25.5 x 19 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Detailed British Admiralty Chart of the Amoy (Xiamen) inner harbor, first published in 1864.

The present example includes larger corrections to 1868 and smaller corrections to 1890 and bears the stamp of Philip Son & Nephew of Liverpool, Agents for the Admiralty Charts.

By the 19th century, the city walls of Xiamen had a circumference of around 9 miles, with an inner and outer city divided by an inner wall and a ridge of hills surmounted by a well-built fort. The inner harbor on Yundang Bay was also well fortified and these defenses were further strengthened upon the outbreak of the First Opium War. Nonetheless, Xiamen was captured in 1841. Rear Admiral Parker bombarded the Qing position to little effect, but the assault by the men under Lieutenant General Gough caused the Chinese to flee their positions. The city fell on August 27, 1841.



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The next year, the Treaty of Nanjing made Xiamen one of the first five ports opened to British trade, which had previously been legally restricted to Guangzhou. Subsequent treaties opened the port to other international powers.

As the primary international port for Fujian, particularly Zhangzhou and its hinterland, Xiamen became a center of China's tea trade, with hundreds of thousands of tons shipped yearly to Europe and the Americas. Its principal exports during the period were tea, porcelain, and paper, while it imported sugar, rice, cotton, and opium, as well as some manufactured goods.

Xiamen was also a center of Protestant missionaries in China. The merchants of Xiamen were thought among the richest and most entrepreneurial and industrious in China. Owing to local belief in feng shui, the streets were "as crooked as ram's horns" and averaged about 4 feet in width to keep out sunlight and control public disturbances.

Detailed Condition:

Soiled and foxed.