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Chart of the Island of Otaheite By Captn. Cook 1769

Stock#: 54275
Map Maker: Cook
Date: 1785
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 14 x 9.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Nice example of Cook's map of Tahiti, from Alexander Hogg's early edition of Cook's Voyages.

Tahiti was first visited by Europeans in 1767, when it was located by the HMS Dolphin, under the command of Captain Samuel Wallis. Wallis remained in the islands near Tahiti from June 19 to July 28, 1767, during an early English circumnavigation of the globe. It is possible that Tahiti had been previously sighted by Portuguese navigator Pedro Fernandes de Queiros, serving the Spanish Crown, in 1606, but more probably that Queiros sighted La Sagitaria Island (Rekareka), to the Southeast of Tahiti.

Wallis was followed in April 1768 by the French explorer Louis Antoine de Bougainville, completing the first French circumnavigation. Bougainville made Tahiti famous in Europe when he published his *Voyage autour du monde*. He described the island as an earthly paradise where men and women live happily in innocence, away from the corruption of civilization. His account illustrated the concept of the noble savage, and influenced utopian thoughts of philosophers such as Jean-Jacques Rousseau before the French Revolution.

In April 1769, Captain James Cook made his first visit to the island. He, along with Charles Green and Daniel Solander, set up camp at Matavai Bay and stayed on until 9 August, 1769. On later visits Cook made harbor at Tautira Bay which is sometimes known as Cook's Anchorage.

Detailed Condition: