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Spitzberga . . .

Stock#: 55239
Map Maker: Schenk & Valk
Date: 1680 circa
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG
Size: 19 x 15 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Detailed map of Spitsbergen, Norway, in the Svalbard Archipelago, published in London by Valk & Schenk.

The first recorded sighting of the island by a European was by Willem Barentsz, who came across it while searching for the Northern Sea Route in June 1596. The first good map, with the east coast roughly indicated, appeared in 1623, printed by Willem Janszoon Blaeu. Around 1660 and 1728, better maps were produced.

The archipelago may have been known to Russian Pomor hunters as early as the 14th or 15th century, although solid evidence preceding the 17th century is lacking. Following the English whalers and others in referring to the archipelago as Greenland, they named it Grumant (Грумант).

The name Svalbard is first mentioned in Icelandic sagas of the 10th and 11th centuries, but this may have been Jan Mayen.

Detailed Condition: