



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

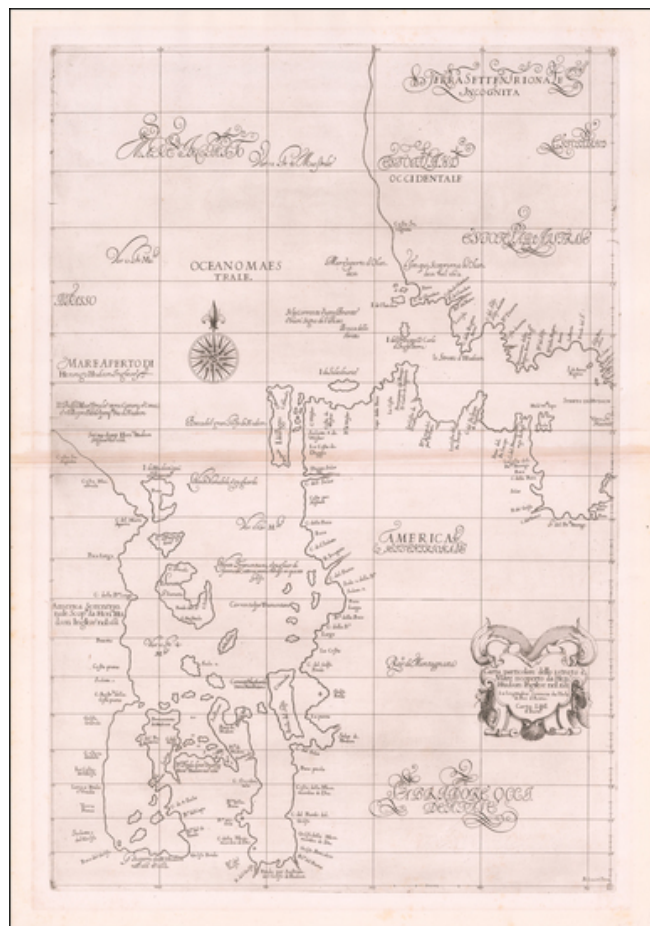
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Carta particolare dello istreto e Mare iscoperto da Hen:o Hudson Inglese nel 1611 . . .

Stock#: 60341
Map Maker: Dudley
Date: 1647
Place: Florence
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 19 x 28 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

The First Sea Chart of Hudson Bay and Hudson Strait

Fine example of the first edition of Robert Dudley's chart of Hudson Bay and Hudson Strait, the earliest sea chart of the region and the first printed map to focus on Hudson Bay.

Dudley's chart is of great historical importance. Burden notes:

This is the first printed sea chart of Hudson Bay and Hudson Strait, an area not covered in the general charts, and one of the most important maps of the region ever produced. Using Mercator's projection for the first time, it is also the earliest to indicate prevailing winds and



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currents. Beautifully engraved by Antonio Francesco Lucini, it records magnetic deviations of the compass.

The outline of the chart appears to be partly derived from Hessel Gerritsz, 1612, although the nomenclature appears to be largely the work of Dudley. Many of the placenames are descriptive of a particular coastal feature. It has been postulated by earlier authorities that Dudley had access to some original Henry Hudson material, and that his is derived from it. Dudley was personally acquainted with many of England's explorers, Thomas Cavendish was even his brother-in-law. . . . His manuscript atlas provides some fascinating material for further research. The charts of the whole region bear many alterations.

The chart is the westernmost sea chart in Dudley's efforts to track the known waters pointing toward the Northwest Passage, with the northwestern extremities of the embracing the prospect of open waters to the west, in the direction of the Pacific Ocean.

Dudley's chart of Hudson Bay appeared in his *Dell'Arcano del Mare*, first published in Venice in 1646. Dudley's atlas was a cartographic landmark. It was the first consistently drawn on Mercator's projection. Each of the charts gives prevailing winds and ocean currents for all important harbors and anchorages and the magnetic declination of a large number of places.

As noted by Parry in *Printing & The Mind of Man*, "In the genre of sea charts it is Sir Robert Dudley (1573-1649) who made the greatest impression among the English cartographers of the seventeenth century, particularly in his charting of the East Indian archipelago . . . the first atlas to contain detailed charts of the whole East Indian and Philippine archipelagoes."

According to Suarez, Dudley's interest in the Far East began in his youth, and he backed Benjamin Wood's 1596 expedition to Southeast Asia which ended in a shipwreck on the Burmese coast. "A man of enormous talents, ranging from adventurer and explorer to scientist, mathematician, naval architect, navigator and cartographer," Dudley was the illegitimate son of the Earl of Leicester, the favorite of Elizabeth I and brother-in-law to Thomas Cavendish. In 1594 Dudley sailed with Sir Francis Drake to Guiana and Trinidad in search of El Dorado and two years later received a knighthood for his part in the Earl of Essex's raid on Cadiz.

Dudley eventually settled in Florence and in a naval capacity entered the service of the Grand Dukes of Tuscany. Dudley's *Arcano del Mare* was the first nautical atlas published by an Englishman and one of the most ambitious and beautiful cartographic works ever produced. The plates were engraved by Antonio Lucini, who claimed that twelve years and 5,000 pounds of copper were expended in the preparation of



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the plates. The resulting charts are among the most distinctive productions of early cartography.

Gorgeous compass rose and several ships. The second state can be distinguished by the Lo6o in the title. Both states are rare.

An essential map for California Collectors.

Detailed Condition:

Minor discoloration at centerfold.