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Carte particulière de l'isthme de Panama, golfe de Darien, côte de Carthagene, jusqu'à Ste Marthe

Stock#: 60630op
Map Maker: d'Anville
Date: 1730
Place: Paris
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 13 x 8 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Detailed Map of the Isthmus of Darien and its Environs

Finely-detailed map of the Isthmus of Darien and the coast of South America. The map was part of one of the first histories of the island of Hispaniola, then split into Spanish controlled-Santo Domingo and French-controlled Saint Domingue.

The seemingly-fragile isthmus connecting North and South America is to the west, while the tip of South America is to the east. Cartagena, or Carthagene as it appears here, is the principal settlement shown to the east, while the forts of Porto Bello are listed to the west. A decorative cartouche in the upper center explains the title, maker, and date of production, April 1730.

The interior includes hills, lakes, rivers, and settlements, as well as information about indigenous peoples. Despite the presence of Europeans for two centuries by the time this map was made, portions of the depicted lands were still '*peu connu*', or little known, as was the case with the Gulf of Darien.

This remoteness, paired with the resistance of the Darien people to Spanish invasion, made the coasts shown here prime territory for illicit acts. The Mosquito Coast, as it was known, was famous for illegal logging by buccaneers. Pirates also used the narrow strip of land. In the 1680s, a group of English marauders crossed the isthmus with the help of the Darien people, stole ships in the Pacific, and then raided Spanish shipping up and down the west coast of South America. The French had raided Cartagena as recently as 1697, while Porto Bello had also been attacked several times by the 1730s.

This map, although it carries no page number or binding instructions, was part of a book for which



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D'Anville produced several items. This was Father Pierre François Xavier de Charlevoix's *Histoire de L'Isle Espagnole ou de S. Domingue*, the first volume of which was published in Paris in 1730. This was one of the first books to be dedicated to the history of the island and this map was part of an important source for the history and geography of the Caribbean region.

Detailed Condition:

Excellent contemporary hand-color in full.