



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

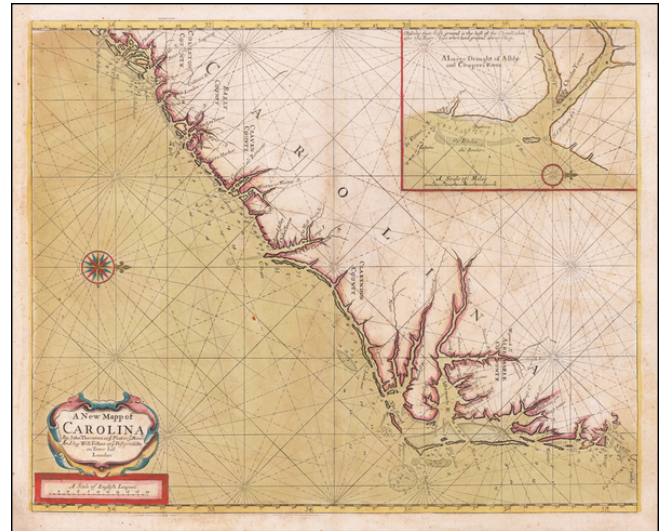
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**A New Mapp of Carolina By John Thornton at ye Platt in ye Minories And by Will: Fisher
at ye Postern Gate on Tower Hill London (Heightened with gold leaf!)**

Stock#: 60826
Map Maker: Thornton & Fisher
Date: 1689
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 20.5 x 17 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

The First English Sea Chart of the Carolinas and the Most Important Sea Chart to the Maritime Traders and Colonizers of North Carolina

Rare first state of this important early sea chart of the Carolina coastline, from Cape Charles to the area around Hilton Head, published by Thornton & Fisher in 1689.

Offered here in fine original color and heightened with gold leaf, the chart is oriented with east at the top of the map and includes an inset map of the Ashley & Cooper Rivers, centered on Charles Towne (Charleston).

The map is the earliest printed sea chart of the Carolinas. As noted by William Cumming:

The most important chart to the maritime traders and colonizers of North Carolina was "A New Mapp of Carolina By John Thornton ... and Will: Fisher," published in 1689 in the Fourth Book of the English Pilot. Unfortunately, it was full of errors and inaccuracies-unfortunate, because The English Pilot was the Bible of English mariners; and the Fourth Book, of prime importance in the history of American cartography, contained the first great collection of charts of British (not Dutch or German) origin delineating the coast of America. Many of its American coastal charts were repeatedly and extensively revised, but the Carolina map was reprinted and even reengraved without improvement. Its inaccuracies were very



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dangerous to attempted navigation in those waters: its "Corituck" and "New Inlet" were inlets not usable . . . "Roanoke Inlet" was erroneously put opposite Colleton Island and called "Old Inlet," and Roanoke Island itself was portrayed as a small islet hugging the mainland shore. Cape Lookout was shown as barely a protuberance, with shoal water, along the Outer Banks; and the only settlements noted were "Capt. Willobies P.ta" on Currituck Sound and "Charles Town," a temporary and soon abandoned settlement of the 1660's on the Cape Fear River.

The inset map showing Charleston is one of the earliest maps to locate the newly fortified town, which had been moved to the peninsula in 1680. The walls lasted until the 1720s, by which time settlement had grown well beyond the original footprint. Burden notes:

The inset . . . follows more closely the manuscript map by Maurice Mathews, c. 1685, residing in the British Library. The soundings on that map were incorporated here on the main map also, especially extending to Port Royal.

The map is known in two states:

- 1689: With imprint of Thornton & Fisher
- 1728: Imprint erased

A map of primary importance for Carolina Collectors.

Rarity

The map is extremely rare on the market. We are not aware of an example of the first state of the map on the market since the Goodspeed Catalog 224, item 236 in 1933.

We are aware of only one recorded example in original color (New York Public Library), but without the added gold.

Detailed Condition:

Heightened with gold leaf. Old color, recently retouched. Some soiling and offsetting. A few minor paper restorations in the blank margins.