

# **Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.**

7407 La Jolla Boulevard La Jolla, CA 92037

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### Singapore Strait

**Stock#:** 67615

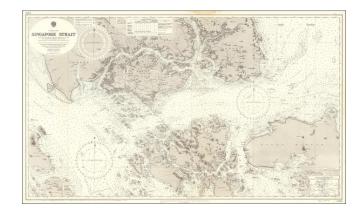
Map Maker: British Admiralty

Date: 1933 (1954)
Place: London
Color: Uncolored

**Condition:** VG

**Size:**  $45 \times 26$  inches

**Price:** SOLD



### **Description:**

#### British Admiralty Map Centered on Singapore Island

A wide nautical chart showing the area around the Straits of Singapore, including Singapore Island, Batam Island, Bintan Island, and the islands off the eastern coast of Sumatra. As with all British Admiralty maps, nautical detail is extensive. Soundings are marked across the main strait and other areas, and shoals, buoys, ammunition dumping grounds, and much more are all marked. This map, which has always been the site of one of the world's busiest shipping lanes, would have been widely used throughout the twentieth century.

It is, of course, this convergence of global trade which has made Singapore one of the most successful city-states in modern times. Here, the city preserves its layout from the early 1930s. The Marina would not be filled in until the 1980s, so Fort Canning and the Governor's house are still nearly on the water. This helps to explain why the old center of Singapore is so far inland today. Most of the settlement is centered on the Fort Canning area. Grange Road can be followed through the yet-to-be-built upscale Orchard and Tanglin neighborhoods through to a collection of buildings at Holland, now comprising the popular Holland Village area. Most of the rest of the island is shown as hills or jungle. A small airport is marked on the eastern end of the island, next to Changi Hill.

Singapore was going through a tumultuous period in its history while this map was being updated. The Japanese invasion had reduced confidence in the British government, and the subsequent post-war period was particularly violent. The Malayan Emergency, a guerrilla insurgency, and various riots all had to be dealt with in order to establish the Singaporian Republic. This period would define the tendencies and rule of the early republic, and it still has repercussions in the country to this day.

Returning to the navigational purposes of this chart, the map includes several insets. One provides



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detailed tidal information for various areas through the Malacca Strait, Bulan Strait, Singapore Strait, and greater South China Sea. Particularly strong regular and tidal currents are marked. Another inset shows the larger scale charts which also map the same area in more detail.

#### **Detailed Condition:**

Minor toning along centerfold in top. Some manuscript notations. Altogether Very Good to Very Good +.