



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

**A New Plain, and Exact Map of Asia, described by N:I: Visscher, and done into English .
.. Printed, Colored and Sold By Ro: Walton at ye Globe & Compass**

Stock#: 70612
Map Maker: Walton
Date: 1657 circa
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 17 x 14 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Rare Variant -- Early English Map of Asia

Rare English map of Asia, engraved by Robert Walton, published in London in about 1657.

This unusual map of Asia was created at a moment in time when there were very few mapmakers creating original content in London. Pre-fire London was beginning to see the establishment of a nascent map publishing industry, although largely reliant upon the work of Dutch and French mapmakers for cartographic content. In this tradition, Robert Walton has created this rare map of Asia, based largely upon the work of Nicholas Visscher the Elder and Joan Blaeu for the cartographic content, but adding it unique elements discussed below.

In the tradition of Visscher and Blaeu, the present map is typically found with city views across the top and bottom and costumed figures at the right and left, a mapmaking style often called *Carte a Figures* (map with figures). However, the present example would appear to be an early impression, which did not include the figures.

We acquired the map as part of an incomplete copy of a book with a set of 4 Walton maps of the continents (Asia, Africa, Europe and America), although the book did not call for the maps. The advertisement in this map of Asia at the top right notes:



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*you may desire a description of the severall countries either of this or any of the other parts
may have one either pasted about it, or them or else you have the most usefull booke called a
Cosmpographicall and Geographicall description of the whole world which is, but of
smal price and it to be bought at the same place as this map is, where they are printed,
coulered and sould as also pictures and the best copy bookes:*

The *Cosmpographicall and Geographicall description of the whole world* referenced in Walton's map of Asia is almost certainly Thomas Porter's *A compendious view or cosmographical and geographical of the whole world*, which is recorded in a single example at the British Museum. Only a single example of Porter's *A Compendious view* has appeared at auction (Sothebys 1965) and the example offered did not include maps.

Rarity

The Walton map is rare, especially lacking the panels.

This is the second example we have offered for sale and the first without panels (1992-2024).

Detailed Condition:

Trimmed to neatline with loss of carte-a-figures borders. Margins extended for framing.