

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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South Polar Chart Compiled From The Latest Information In the Hydrographic Department, 1956

Stock#: 71249

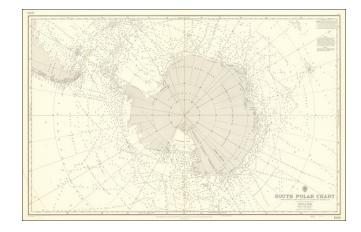
Map Maker: British Admiralty

Date: 1956
Place: London
Color: Uncolored

Condition: VG+

Size: 39.5 x 25 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Rare and highly detailed map of the South Polar regions, published by the British Admiralty.

The map incorporates information from the 1950 survey of the Antarctic Peninsula and the The Norwegian - British - Swedish Expedition (NBSAE) of 1949-52, the first expedition in Antarctica involving an international team of scientists.

The present map is most notable for its inclusion of the various regional subdivisions of the Antarctic continent. This would seem to be the first state of the map to include all of these 5 subvisions, with the prior edition (1952) showing only two. Those listed include:

- Australian Antarctic Territory
- Terre Adelie (French Territory)
- Falkland Is. Dependencies (British Territory)
- Ross Dependency (New Zealand Territory)
- Dronning Maud Land (Norwegian Territory)

The coastal features of the continent are significantly improved, although there are still large areas which are blank or tentatively mapped. This is also the first edition to add an explanation of the currents at the top right corner.

The map was published one year after the start of Trans-Antarctic Expedition led by Sir Vivian Fuchs and supported by Sir Edmund Hillary. The Expedition undertook the first crossing of the Antarctic from the Weddell Sea to the Ross Sea via the South Pole. Sir Vivian Fuchs was sometimes known as Bunny Fuchs.



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The Antarctic Treaty

The map was printed immediately prior to the Antarctic Treaty.

In 1959, 12 countries signed the Antarctic Treaty, which dedicated the whole continent to peaceful collaboration for scientific investigation. In 1961, the treaty went into effect, and all territorial claims any country had made before that time were suspended.

Rarity

The map is very rare. We were unable to locate any examples at auction or in dealer catalogs.

OCLC locates 2 copies (Newberry Library and University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee (American Geographical Society Collection)).

Detailed Condition: