



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman  
Antique Maps Inc.**

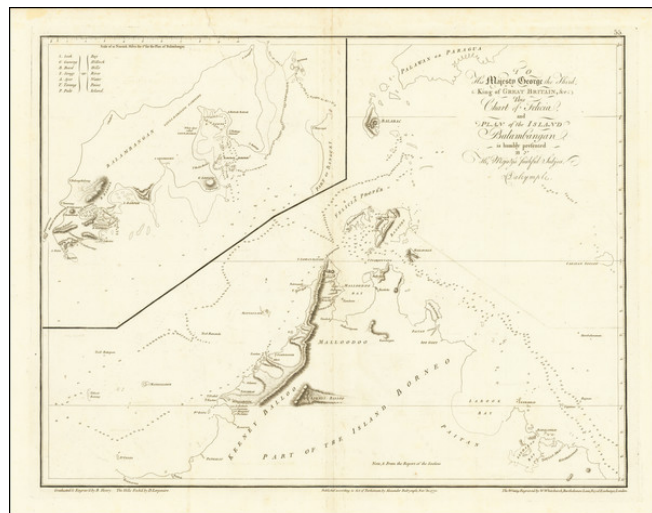
7407 La Jolla Boulevard  
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500  
blr@raremaps.com

**[Northern Borneo / Palawan Province ] To His Majesty George the Third, King of Great Britain, &c. This Chart of Felicia, and Plan of the Island Balambangan is humbly presented By His Majesty's faithful Subject, Dalrymple**

**Stock#:** 71752  
**Map Maker:** Dalrymple  
**Date:** 1770  
**Place:** London  
**Color:** Uncolored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 24 x 18.5 inches  
**Price:** \$ 675.00



**Description:**

***Alexander Dalrymple Commands A British East India Company Factory***

Fine English sea chart, covering the southern-most part of the Palawan Province in the Philippines and Balambangan Island (Malaysia), north of Borneo.

The present chart has a fascinating historical context, with Balambangan Island being the site of an English East India Company Factory which was led by two of England's most famous chartmakers, Alexander Dalrymple and John Herbert, both of whom were relatively swiftly terminated, Dalrymple for being disagreeable and Herbert for mismanagement. This would not be Dalrymple's last assignment which would be marred by his "quarrelsome" nature. His disagreements with Henry Roberts and James King regarding the editing of the maps and text for the official account of the third voyage of James Cook are described at length by Helen Wallis.

The map shows a portion of Borneo's north coast along with the nearby islands, with a large inset map of Balambangan Island. The map notes soundings and coastal features, with minimal interior detail. Alexander Dalrymple explored the East Indies in the employ of the East India Company. This map shows the track of his ship during the 1762 journey.

*The map appeared in The East India Pilot: a collection of charts, maps and plans for navigation, London:*



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Published according to Act of Parliament by Alexander Dalrymple, Novr. 30, 1770. It would also be included in French naval atlases, sometimes with the added embossed image of the French Hydrographical Society.

**Balambangan Island**

During his time at sea, Alexander Dalrymple, as an officer of the British East India Company, concluded an agreement with Sultan Bantilan Muizzud-Din on September 12, 1762 whereby the Sultanate of Sulu ceded the island of Balambangan to East India Company. Dalrymple took possession of the island on January 22, 1763.

The East India Company thereafter established a factory on Balambangan in 1768 and Dalrymple was offered the role of management of the new settlement. However, Dalrymple quarreled with the directors, and his insistence on absolute management of Balambangan led to his dismissal in March 1771.

Dalrymple was replaced by John Herbert who commanded the *Britannia* as it transported soldiers, goods, and supplies from India in 1772, and arrived at Balambangan in December 1773.

The British East India Company settlement traded opium, munitions, and fabrics with the Tausugs and Maguindanaons. Herbert's mismanagement of Balambangan and poor relations with the Tausugs resulted in the settlement's destruction on February 1775 at the hands of Moro pirates, and Herbert and other survivors escaped to Brunei.

In the second half of the 18th century, the Dutch from Batavia attempted to settle the island's western coast, but withdrew by 1797.

**Detailed Condition:**

Minor soiling.