



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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[Cape of Good Hope] Nieuwe Kaart van Caap der Goede Hoop in hare rechte jegenwoordige staat

Stock#: 74689
Map Maker: Valentijn
Date: 1724
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 22 x 17.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine Chart of the Cape of Good Hope from an Important History of the Dutch in the East Indies

Nice example of Francois Valentijn's map of the area around Cape of Good Hope and Table Bay, from his *Oud en Nieuw Oost-Indien*, a significant history of the Dutch in Maritime Asia and one written with rare access to the Dutch East India Company (VOC) archives and information.

The larger map shows the Cape of Good Hope from the Doornbosch River to the Baay van Algoa (Algoa Bay). The smaller map provides a more detailed treatment of the area around the modern day Cape Town region from Robben Island to False Bay and east as far as Draakenstein.

The map records the expansion of the small Dutch colony eastwards to the Hottentot Holland Mountains and the region covered by Simon van der Stel's party (1685) on its journey to the copper mines in northern Namaqualand.

Oud en Nieuw Oost-Indien

After spending sixteen years in the East Indies over the course of several voyages, Valentijn returned to his native Dordrecht. There, he finished his history of the East Indies, *Oud en Nieuw Oost-Indien*. The book was divided in five parts spread over eight volumes. It had over a thousand illustrations, including some of the most accurate maps of the region published to that date.



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For the text, Valentijn borrowed heavily from contemporary works. To create such detailed maps and descriptions, Valentijn most likely also had access to the VOC's archives. These archives were closely watched and very few scholars or officials gained entry, particularly if they were likely to publish the contents of the repository. Indeed, Valentijn was lucky to see his work published at all.

Today, Valentijn's work is regarded as a veritable encyclopedia on maritime Asia. It is considered a useful collection of sources, from the eighteenth century and earlier, drawn from the VOC and personal papers. Some of his maps, particularly those of Australia, are drawn from manuscript sources now lost, making his history the lone surviving record of endangered knowledge.

This chart shows one of the world's most important features, the Cape of Good Hope, in detail. It was featured in an important publication chronicling the Dutch in the East Indies. It would be an advantageous addition to any collection of Cape of Good Hope, South Africa, or Dutch charts and maps.

Detailed Condition:

Minor offsetting.