



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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[Jaffna, Sri Lanka] Jaffenapatnam

Stock#: 76226
Map Maker: Valentijn
Date: 1726
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 14 x 11 inches
Price: \$ 295.00



Description:

Birdseye view of Jaffnapatnam (Jaffna)

The view depicts the fortifications and town of Jaffna on the coast of Sri Lanka.

This Portuguese built fort was captured by the Dutch and remained under the VOCs command as part of six different coastal territories, after they took over the Portuguese rule as consequence of an over three month siege in 1658. The kingdom of Jaffnapatnam on the north tip of Sri Lanka consisted of 13 islands and four provinces, and the Dutch maintained rule for 138 years.

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.

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



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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: