



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## [Dabhol] De Stadt Dabul

**Stock#:** 76496  
**Map Maker:** Valentijn  
**Date:** 1724 circa  
**Place:** Amsterdam  
**Color:** Uncolored  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 14 x 11 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



### Description:

#### ***Dabhol, India***

Nice example of Francois Valentijn's view of the trading port and town of Dabhol, south of Mumbai in the Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra.

Dabhol was one of the most important trading centers on the west coast of India during the 15th and 16th Centuries

The view is featured in Valentijn's *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.

#### **Dabhol**

The Russian traveler Afanasy Nikitin, who visited India (1468-1474) found Dabhol as a large town and extensive seaport. The horses from Mysore, Arabia, Khorasan and Nighostan were brought here for trade. This was the place which had links with all major ports from India to Ethiopia.

In the 15th and 16th centuries, Dabhol was an important Muslim trade center, first under the Bahmani, later under the Badar sultans of Bijapur. At its height, it was arguably the most important port between Chaul and Goa.



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### [Dabhol] De Stadt Dabul

It was exactly the prominence of Dabhol as a Muslim trade center and port that led it to be bombarded, sacked and razed by a Portuguese expeditionary force (Battle of Dabhol) under Francisco de Almeida in December, 1508, prior to the famous Battle of Diu. Although the city's fort was not taken, it was the first of several attempts by the Portuguese to destroy Dabhol.

The break-up of the Bahmani state into several smaller Deccan sultanates had accelerated Dabhol's decline. It was finally conquered by Shivaji around 1660 and annexed to the new Maratha kingdom.

### **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 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:**