



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

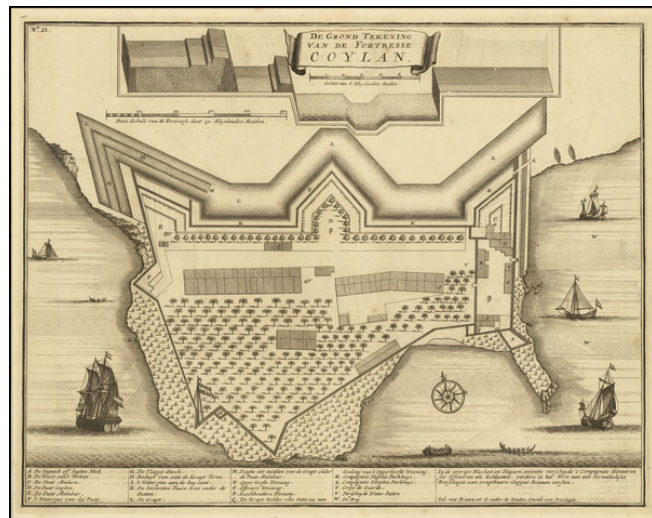
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(Kollam) De Grond Tekening van de Fortresse Coylan

Stock#: 76923
Map Maker: Valentijn
Date: 1724 circa
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 14.5 x 11.5 inches
Price: \$ 275.00



Description:

Original antique plan of the fort of Coylan in Kollam, India from Francois Valentijn's *Oud en Nieuw Oost-Indien*. Located in the southern part of Kerana State, India, Kollam has long served as an important seaport and was a center of Portuguese, Dutch, and British trade.

The plan of the fort is extensive, showing the layout of barracks, walls, moats, and other fortifications. A key lists 22 points of interest at the base of the map and provides further context for the work. The work includes a decorative compass rose and numerous ships sailing at sea.

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.



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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.

Detailed Condition: