



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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A New and accurate map of Africa . . .

Stock#: 78773
Map Maker: Bowen
Date: 1747
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 13.5 x 16.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine Map of the Continent of Africa Locating "Negroland" and "Man-Eaters"

Clear, detailed map of the continent of Africa by prominent London mapmaker Emanuel Bowen.

The map divides the continent into large regions, including Barbary, "Sara or the Desert," Ethiopia Exterior, and Monomotapa. A large section of west Africa is labeled as Negroland, while Guinea includes the Grain Coast, Tooth Coast, and the Gold Coast. This shows how Europeans saw West Africa, as a source for commodities including, at this time, human beings.

The map includes a compass rose and a decorative cartouche in the lower right. The cartouche features a man astride a horse, a crane, several elephants, and, bizarrely, a boy riding a crocodile.

Interestingly, Bowen shows the source of the Nile as lying in "Ethiopia or Abissinia," rather than farther south in the great lakes of south-central Africa, as many other contemporary maps did. However, beyond the northeastern portion of the continent, there are few geographic features included in interior Africa.

The map reflects the limited contacts of Europeans across the continent, which were then confined primarily to coastal trading regions. However, this does not stop Bowen from offering annotations about peoples and places of the interior. For example, in "Mono-Emugi," are supposed "Anthrophages or Man Eaters." In "Ambutua or Toroa" and "Monomotapa" are "Gold Mines," and the latter also has a convent of Dominicans, one of the early attempts at conversion in that area. "Mataman" has "A savage people." Most



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of these notes, except for the Dominicans, were based merely on rumor.

Detailed Condition: