



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

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(Cape Town) Nieuwe Naaukeurige Land-en Zee-Kaart, van het voornaamste Gedeelte der Kaffersche Kust, Begrypende de Sardanje-Bay en de Caap de Bonne Esperanca met alle des Zelfs Plantazien.

Stock#: 78976
Map Maker: Loots / Ottens
Date: 1700
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 23 x 19 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fabulous Original Hand-Colored Example of a Dutch Cartographic Rarity of Cape Town Containing Exceptional Detail

Rare map of the Cape of Good Hope, focusing on the area that would later become Cape Town. The map includes an exceptionally detailed look at Dutch settlement in the region, including the identification of the farmers of the Hollandsche Oost-Indische Compagnie who were then in residence, as well as a number of VOC officials. The map is particularly remarkable for listing details regarding early farmers and VOC officials who inhabited the area.

The present example of the map is apparently the fourth known example, which to date is of uncertain attribution. Some have suggested that the map was possibly engraved by Joshua Ottens, due to its mention in the sixth volume of the Teyler Museum's edition of the Ottens's *Atlas Major*, however, this is far from certain. However, our acquisition of an uncolored example of this chart in 2011, along with nine other



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charts ascribed to Johannes Loots, assembled for use at sea, suggests Loots as a possibly more likely cartographer.

The lower left cartouche contains a description of the discovery of the Cape of Good Hope by Bartholomew Diaz in 1486 and notes the change of its original name (Tormentoso, the Stormy Cape) to the Cape of Good Hope as instigated by the then King of Portugal, Jacob II. It further states there that the Cape is a Dutch possession. In the lower margin it is reported that the meridians of longitude use Teneriffa as their prime meridian. A remark near Robben Island states that on this island (later infamous as Nelson Mandela's prison), slaves were already then kept in chain gangs. A decorative cartouche appears in the upper right.

Cartographic Sources

A detailed article written in 1987 by Mieke Scholte determines that the map in fact derives from a manuscript map made by the VOC. As noted by Roger Stewart in his later article:

In his Beschryvinge van de Kaap der Goede Hoop, Francois Valentijn describes a source: 'the handsome drawing ... put at my disposal by Governor Willem Adriaan van der Stel ... made just before arrival of H.E., (on which) one can see very plainly the plan of the town, together with its extensions outside the Table Bay'. This map was almost certainly the scarce printed map, Nova et Accurata Tabula Promontorii Bonae Spei. Valentijn replicates some gross errors on the map (e.g. the shape of Saldanha Bay and the bizarre location of Constantia). Scholte estimated that the map was completed ca. 1699.

Scholte states:

[The] most important feature is that [the map] shows a number of names of farmers (vrijburgers) and officials of the Dutch East India Company (VOC). . . . [The map] (ARA: VELH 93), is based on VEL 809 and some other ms-maps in the (secret!) VOC-archives. The mapped region has been enlarged northwards to include the Saldanha Bay. The inland of this extension shows no topographical details. The map must have been made between 1699 and 1702/1703. The name of the maker is unknown. Apart from a single copy in the ARA, the map can be found in the Atlas Major in 6 volumes by R. & I. Ottens in Teylers Museum, Haarlem.

The Johannes Loots Sea Charts

Johannes Loots (1665 - 1726) was a publisher of sea charts who was active from 1693 until his death in



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1726. Loots began his career as an apprentice to Hendrick Doncker and later set up his own shop on Nieuwebrugsteeg in Amsterdam, in 1693. Between 1695 and 1698, Loots, Claes de Vries (a surveyor-cartographer) and Antoni de Winter (an engraver) entered into a joint venture to produce 200 sea charts on a Mercator Projection (Van Keulen Cartography, p 46). The plans were advertised in the *Amsterdamsche Courant* in August and October 1698 and several charts offered separately. However, the venture only produced 120 charts (Van Keulen Cartography, p. 47), and the partnership dissolved in 1707, with Claas de Vries selling at least 17 charts, including 16 large plates of the English Channel and a smaller plate of the Hull River, to Gerard Van Keulen on September 24, 1707 for 374 guilders) (Van Keulen Cartography, p. 16).

In 1707, Loots sold 100 charts on a Mercator Projection to Gerard Van Keulen. In 1707, Loots appears to have purchased the plates of Jacob Robijn, which included the charts originally engraved by Arent Roggeveen for his *Burning Fen*. These include a rare set of charts of the North American and Caribbean Coastlines, which were a significant improvement over the contemporary sea charts issued by Van Loon and Goos (for whom Roggeveen had originally made the charts).

At some point, Loots or his widow must have re-acquired the plates, as Loots' widow and her brother, Isaac Swigerts, continued to publish later editions of some of the charts until 1750, when Swigerts sold the remainder of the Loots charts to Johannes Van Keulen II. These plates were re-engraved to include the Van Keulen name thereafter. At the time of his death, the inventory notes The inventory of Isaac Swigerts estate includes 10,816 various maps, presumably, his unsold inventory.

During the life of Loots sea charts, it is known that some of the charts were copied by both Seller and Grierson. While an inventory of Loots shop included 464 copper plates, the number of plates known to have been published by Loots is far fewer and it would appear that this inventory included multi-plate charts and non-cartographic material.

Rarity

This is the fourth known example of the map. Loots' charts are particularly rare on the market. Only two prior examples have come to the market in the past forty years, of which the last original hand-colored example was sold in 1986.

Detailed Condition:

Fantastic original hand-color, with some oxidation-related splits. Archivaly backed. Very minor facsimile



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in the lower part of the cartouche.