



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

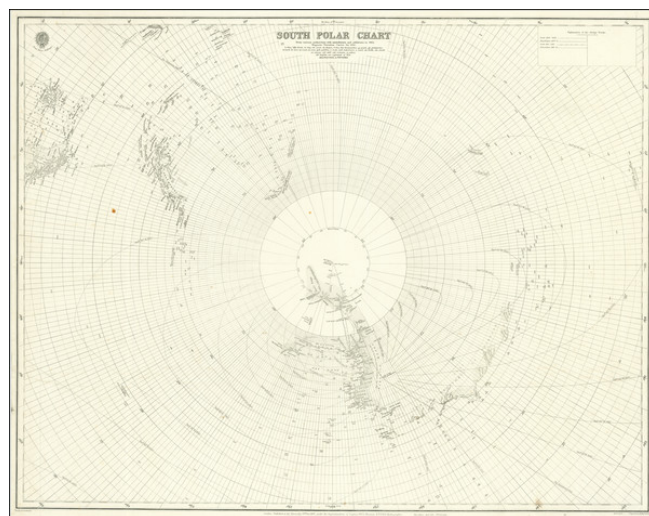
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(Terra Nova Expedition) South Polar Chart From Various authorities with amendments and additions to 1912.

Stock#: 80061
Map Maker: British Admiralty
Date: 1912 (1914)
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 33 x 27 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Owned by Francis Davies a Member of the British Antarctic Expedition.

Impressive and very rare British Admiralty chart of Antarctica and the South Pole. The chart was first issued in London in 1887 but here has updates to October 9, 1914.

This was the most advanced commercially available chart of the continent when the great era of Antarctic exploration was underway. The map shows the scant confirmed coastline of Antarctica, with large blank areas where the outline had yet to be determined. Soundings in the far Southern Ocean are sometimes included in places where land had not been reached. Most of the cartographical activity of the map is focused on the Ross Sea and the marine route to the South Pole, noting Amundsen, Scott, and Shackleton's routes. Amundsen's arrival at the South Pole is recorded as "Amundsen 14th to 17th December 1911", while Scott's says "18th Jan. 1912". Various other explorers' discoveries and dates of discovery are scattered around the continent.

The map captures the sense of the extreme unknown faced by explorers heading south at this time and the very fragile nature of their endeavors.

The magnetic South Pole and related isogons are shown on the chart.

Rarity



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OCLC records three institutional examples of the chart: British Library, Newberry Library, and the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee (presumably AGS).

Provenance

'Terra Nova' Expedition archive material of Francis Edward Charles Davies.

Davies was the shipwright for the Terra Nova expedition from 1910-1913, serving under the expedition leader Robert Falcon Scott. As part of his responsibilities, Davies outfitted the expedition ship *Terra Nova* and designed and built the prefab winter quarters to be used on Antarctica. Davies was part of the rescue party that went in search of Scott, and because of his carpentry skills, he constructed the memorial cross over the cairn that held the bodies of Scott, Henry Robertson Bowers, and Edward Adrian Wilson. Apparently, Davies gave lectures on the British Antarctic Expedition, and it was perhaps for this purpose that he acquired the present chart.

Detailed Condition: