



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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A New & Exact Map of the Coast, Countries and Islands within ye Limits of ye South Sea Company from ye River Aranoca to Terra del Fuego and from thence through ye South Sea, to ye North Part of California &c. . . . (Galapagos Islands!)

Stock#: 81556
Map Maker: Moll
Date: 1711 circa
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: Good
Size: 19 x 25.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

A South Sea Company Map

A fascinating antique map by Herman Moll of the Limits of the English South Sea Company, extending to the southern portion of North America with the island of California and Central America.

The map also prominently features twelve inset maps, including the Galapagos Islands, Isle Chiloe, Acapulco, the Isthmus of Darien, Straits of Magellan, Juan Fernando, the Gulf of Nicoya, the Gulf of Fonseca, Port Baldivia (Valdivia), the sea route from England to the Orinoco, the Bay of Guayaquil, and, interestingly, an inset of the phantom Pepys Island.



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Pepys Island was named for Samuel Pepys by Ambrose Cowley, in 1684, who placed it a couple of hundred miles north of the Falkland Islands. Many expeditions attempted to locate the island, and it is assumed it was a misplaced member of the Falkland Islands. The top three insets are printed separately and joined to the main map, indicating this is the second state per McLaughlin. The map is filled with indications of currents, trade winds and compass roses. The decorative cartouche in the map of Guayaquil contains a dedication to Robert, Earl of Oxford.

At the bottom of the map, Moll also promotes his 2 sheet map of South America, which he notes as being published in response to a "*very erroneous French Map done at Paris in 1703 and to deceive ye world dedicated to Dr. Halley and pretended in ye dedication to be corrected by his own Discoveries. . . .*"

The South Sea Company was a British joint-stock company that traded in South America during the 18th century. Founded in 1711, the company was granted a monopoly to trade in Spain's South American colonies as part of a treaty during the War of Spanish Succession. In return, the company assumed the national debt England had incurred during the war. Speculation in the company's stock led to a great economic bubble known as the South Sea Bubble in 1720, which caused financial ruin for many. In spite of its failures, it was restructured and continued to operate for more than a century after the Bubble.

Detailed Condition:

Expertly restored, with several tears and folds splits reinforced on verso. Primary area of restoration is in lower left corner, which is replaced with some facsimile. Restore Reinforce Weak Spots Repair Tears