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A Generall Mapp of the Contenant and Islands which are Adjacent to Jamaica [with] The English Empire [with] A New Mapp of the Island of Jamaica]

Stock#: 86766
Map Maker: Lea / Willdey
Date: 1685 (1732 circa)
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 22 x 19 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

The British Empire in North America

Rare George Willdey edition of Philip Lea's rare map of the British Colonies (Jamaica, Port Royal, Florida, Caribbean and The English Empire in America).

As noted by Burden, the map was first advertised in the *Term Catalogues for Trinity Term 1685*, published in June 1685. It is not referred to in Lea's 1685 catalogue, but appears in the catalogue of 1687.

The map is divided into three parts, the lower part being a detailed map of the island of Jamaica, naming all the plantation owners. It bears an inset lower left entitled *A New Draught of Port Royal by Anthony Williams*. The upper part of the map shows the Gulf of Mexico and the southeastern portion of North America. A large *B. Sp of Santo* represents the mouth of the Mississippi River, Florida includes a similarly named river on the west coast, and *S Augustine* on the eastern shore.

The final two maps extend to the Carolinas, with the ports of Charles Towne and Port Royall noted. A large inset map in the upper right is entitled *The English Empire* and extends the coverage of the map northwards through New England, centered on the Chesapeake. This map provides an accurate depiction of the British Colonies along the Eastern Coast of North America as it stood in the mid 1680s. The new colony of Pennsylvania is shown, as is the capital city, misspelled *Philidolphia*. The four vessels plying the



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waters offshore indicate the level of trading activity.

It should be noted that while Philip Burden lists the map as issued by Willdey circa 1715, Ashley Baynton-Williams has provided compelling evidence that this conclusion is not correct. Mr. Baynton-Williams notes that the sale of Anne Lea's stock (widow of Philip) was announced in 'Daily Journal' of August 5th 1730, as to be held on the 14th. Willdey first advertised his re-issuance of the Lea maps in an advertisement in the 'Daily Post' for February 3rd 1732.

Rarity

The Willdey edition of Lea's map was unrecorded until 1986, when an example was located in a copy of a Willdey Atlas was sold at Sothebys. Only a few examples have since been located. The Lea Map has appeared in dealer catalogues only 2 times in the past 23 years (Arkway Catalog 58 (2004) \$6,500 and Shapero, Pilots of the Caribbean (2007) \$9000) . Only 1 example of the Willdey edition has appeared in the past 35 years (1987--Arkway Catalog, \$1900).

We offered the Duke of York's copy of the map for sale in 2009.

Detailed Condition: