



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

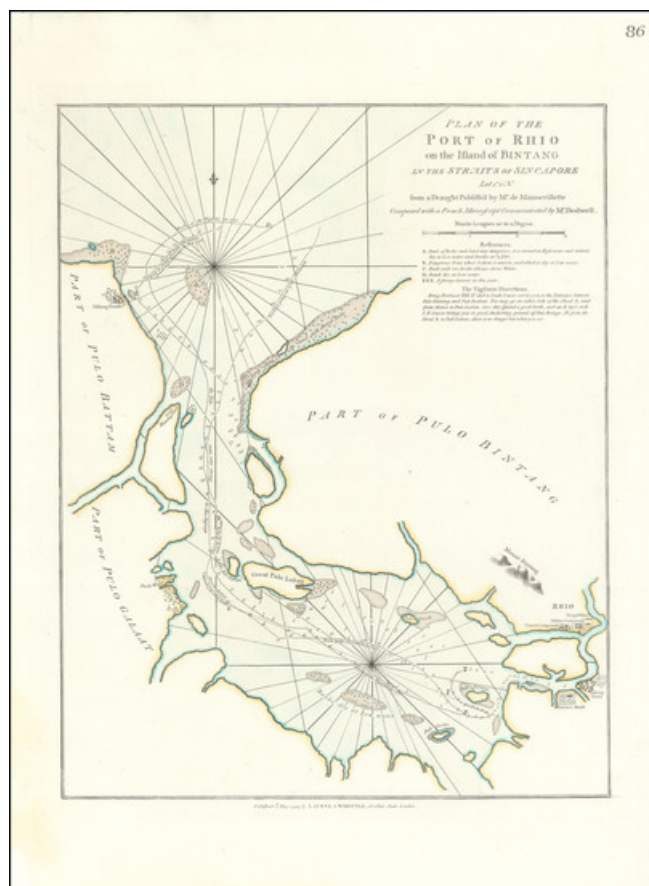
7407 La Jolla Boulevard  
La Jolla, CA 92037

[www.raremaps.com](http://www.raremaps.com)

(858) 551-8500  
[blr@raremaps.com](mailto:blr@raremaps.com)

## Plan of the Port of Rhio on the Island of Bintang in the Straits of Singapore . . .

**Stock#:** 94796  
**Map Maker:** Laurie & Whittle  
**Date:** 1794  
**Place:** London  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 16 x 20 inches  
**Price:** \$ 495.00



### Description:

This 18th-century maritime chart represents the Port of Rhio on Bintan Island, located within the strategic Singapore Straits. Published by the firm of Laurie & Whittle, the chart offers a meticulous representation of Bintan and the neighboring Batam Island, both parts of the Riau Archipelago and today recognized as popular resort destinations in Southeast Asia.

The islands, conveniently situated along the southern edge of the Singapore Straits, form a crucial passage connecting the Indian and Pacific Oceans. The prime harbor on Bintan, 'Rhio' (presently known as Bintang Bay), has been a significant trading port since the 3rd century A.D. Between 1200 and 1500, it served as the principal base for Malay pirates operating in the straits. With the fall of Malacca to the Portuguese in 1511, Bintan became the capital of the influential Johor Sultanate. The chart dates back to the 18th century when British influence dominated the Riau Archipelago, although the local sultan managed daily affairs. The archipelago did not become a part of the Dutch East Indies until the signing of



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman  
Antique Maps Inc.**

7407 La Jolla Boulevard  
La Jolla, CA 92037

[www.raremaps.com](http://www.raremaps.com)

(858) 551-8500  
[blr@raremaps.com](mailto:blr@raremaps.com)

---

**Plan of the Port of Rhio on the Island of Bintang in the Straits of Sincapore . . .**

the Anglo-Dutch Treaty in 1824.

The chart provides a detailed hydrographic survey of Bintan Bay, portraying the routes of the ships that charted the harbor during the 1750s. Of particular note are socio-demographic details provided around the town of Rhio, with the 'King's [Sultan's] Palace', the 'Chinese compound', the 'Malay Compound', and the 'Fishing Town' (inhabited by the Bugis) distinctly labeled. The 'Fishing Village' on Batam Island also features in the chart.

A reference section informs sailors of potential hazards and landmarks, such as a bank of rocks and sand known to be dangerous ('A'), a precarious point with an uneven bottom which becomes dry at low tide ('B'), and a bank with two rocks always above water ('C'). A note about the current in the region ('EEE') and directions for vigilance are also given, guiding vessels safely through the straits.

Thus, this 18th-century chart served as an essential navigational guide for seafarers navigating the bustling Singapore Straits, offering intricate topographical and sociocultural insights about the region.

**Detailed Condition:**