

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Several Appearances of Hogs Island on the Western Coast of Sumatra

Stock#:	94798
Map Maker:	Laurie & Whittle
Date:	1794
Place:	London
Color:	Hand Colored
Condition:	VG+
Size:	13 x 10 inches
Price:	\$ 295.00



Description:

Published by Laurie & Whittle on 12 May 1794, "Several Appearances of Hogs Island on the Western Coast of Sumatra" provides an intricate depiction of the maritime landscapes surrounding Hogs Island (present-day Simeulue), off Sumatra's western coast. The plate features six distinct coastal profiles, each recorded meticulously, demonstrating a compelling application of 18th-century coastal cartography.

The art of rendering coastal profiles or coastal views, common during the 18th century, was crucial for seafarers. These illustrations allowed mariners to recognize landforms as they appeared from a ship's deck, thereby aiding navigation. The recorded appearances in this particular map range from the little island to the south-southeast of Hogs Island, viewed from different angles and distances, to parts of Simeulue itself and a section of Sumatra's west coast.

Each coastal profile captures a unique perspective of the island. The distances from which the views are observed—ranging from 4 to 12 leagues—emphasize the varying scales of observation that the mariners would have engaged with during their voyages. The directions provided further enhance this by offering an understanding of the relative orientation of the islands.

The plate's coastal profiles exhibit the stark features of Hogs Island and its surrounding areas, revealing



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the contours, vegetation, and topography that make this part of Sumatra unique. This depiction of the western coast of Sumatra was created at a time when maritime exploration was opening up the vast and diverse landscapes of the East Indies to European understanding.

Detailed Condition: