



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

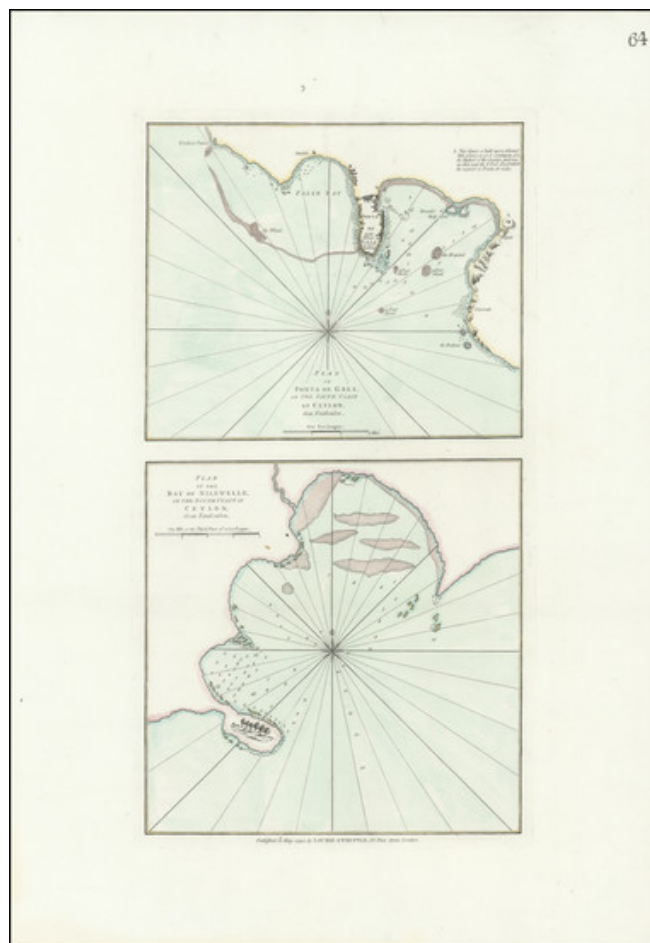
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(Sri Lanka) Plan of Ponta de Gala, on the South Coast of Ceylon [with] Plan of the Bay of Nilewelle, on the South Coast of Ceylon

Stock#: 94806
Map Maker: Laurie & Whittle
Date: 1794
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 10.25 x 19 inches
Price: \$ 295.00



Description:

Plan of Ponta de Gala and *Plan of the Bay of Nilewelle*, both delineating specific sections of the south coast of Ceylon, were derived from the maps of the Van Keulen family. Published in May 1794 by Laurie & Whittle in London, these representations offer a precise view of the topographical features and maritime nuances of these regions during the closing years of the 18th century.

The late 18th century marked a pivotal period in the history of Ceylon, now recognized as Sri Lanka. The island, situated strategically along key maritime trade routes, drew the interest of major European powers, notably the Portuguese, Dutch, and the ascending British empire. The Van Keulen firm's cartographic expertise was largely centered on nautical charts, emphasizing the importance of these



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coasts for navigational and trade purposes.

By presenting Ponta de Gala and the Bay of Nilewelle on one sheet, the cartographers highlighted the geographical adjacency and interconnected relevance of these areas. During this period, the influence of the British was steadily growing in the Indian Ocean, making accurate maps essential for navigation, trade, and territorial control. The publication of these detailed coastal maps by Laurie & Whittle, a renowned entity in the cartographic publishing realm, further underscores the contemporary demand and utility of such precise geographical information.

Detailed Condition: