



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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[Hispaniola / Bahamas] Carte de l'Isle de Saint Domingue Dressee en 1722 pour l'usage du Roy Sur les memoires de Mr. Frezier . . .

Stock#: 94448
Map Maker: Covens & Mortier
Date: 1725
Place: Paris
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 24 x 19 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine example of this remarkable antique map that provides a captivating glimpse into the history and geography of Hispaniola, the island encompassing the modern-day nations of Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Created in 1722 and published in 1725, the map reflects the era's cartographic techniques and showcases the knowledge and exploration of the time.

The map includes excellent detail throughout includes realistic depictions of bays, mountains, islets, lagoons, forests, etc., which are combined with details of human development of the flourishing colony. Each town, plantation house, windmill, watermill, and sugar works is indicated, as well as gun emplacements, fortifications, anchorages, and government houses.

The map serves as a valuable historical artifact, not only for its geographical accuracy but also for the insights it offers into the local history of Hispaniola during an important period in its history. Between 1600 and 1750, Hispaniola experienced a tumultuous history of colonization, conflicts, and shifting colonial powers. The Spanish Empire was the first European power to establish a presence on the island, beginning with the arrival of Christopher Columbus in 1492. By the 1600s, however, the western portion of the island came under French control, while the eastern part remained under Spanish rule.

The French colony, known as Saint-Domingue, thrived during this period, mainly due to its vast sugar plantations and the forced labor of enslaved Africans. The island became the leading producer of sugar and one of the most profitable colonies in the French colonial empire. This map captures the influence of



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the French on the western side of Hispaniola, highlighting the numerous French settlements, plantations, and fortifications.

The map's creation was based on the memoirs of Mr. Frezier, adding an intriguing element to its historical significance. Mr. Frezier refers to Amédée-François Frezier, a French naval officer, engineer, and cartographer who visited Saint-Domingue and other parts of the Caribbean in the early 18th century. Frezier's memoirs provided valuable firsthand accounts of the geography, natural resources, and settlements of the region. His observations and insights contributed to a better understanding of the island's topography and its economic potential.

Detailed Condition: