Carte de la Baye de Saldana ou Saldane Dressee sur les Remarques de Navigateurs . . .

Stock#: 38986
Map Maker: Bellin

Date: 1750
Place: Paris
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 10.5 x 8.5 inches

Price: SOLD
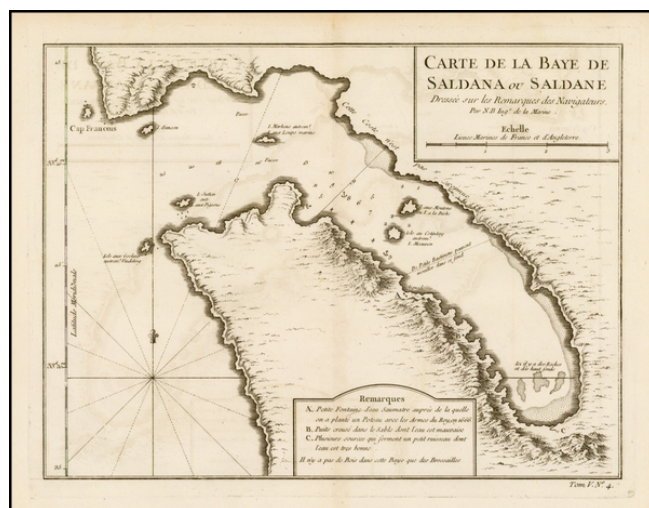
Description:

Created around 1750 by Jacques Nicolas Bellin, the Royal Hydrographer to the King of France, the plan of Saldanha Bay, located northwest of Cape Town in South Africa, is a small but practical navigational chart of the time.

The map includes soundings, which are depth measurements taken at different points within the bay. These soundings would have been used by sailors to identify safe areas for anchoring and to avoid underwater hazards.

Additionally, the map features specific remarks in a text box, providing further information about the region:

- **A.** There is mention of a small brackish water fountain near which a post with the King's Arms was placed in 1666, possibly marking a territorial claim.
- **B.** A warning is given about a well dug in the sand with bad water, directing sailors away from this non-potable source.
- **C.** Reference is made to several good-quality springs forming a small stream, directing sailors to a reliable source of fresh water.
- The text also notes that there is no wood in the bay, only brushwood, providing information on the local vegetation and the lack of substantial timber.

Bellin's detailed plan of Saldanha Bay reflects the need for accurate geographical information for navigation during the 18th century. It combines both scientific measurements and practical observations,

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resulting in a map that would have been a valuable tool for sailors of the time.

Detailed Condition: