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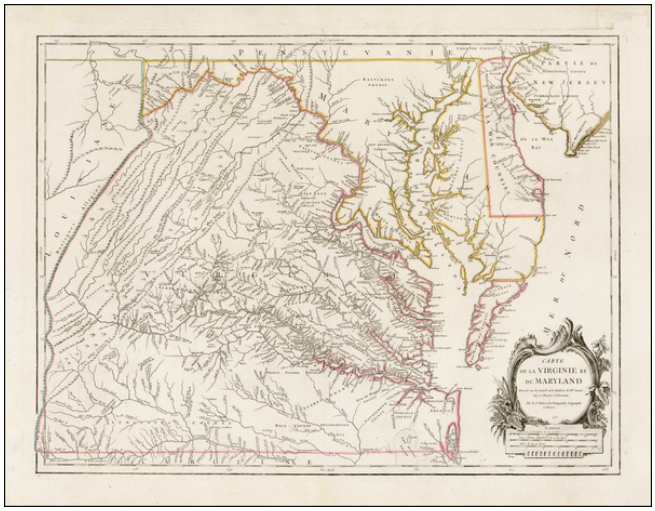
Carte De La Virginie Et Du Maryland Dressee sur la grande carte Angloise de Mrs. Josue Fry et Pierre Jefferson . . . 1755

Stock#: 40186
Map Maker: de Vaugondy

Date: 1780 circa
Place: Paris
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG+
Size: 25.5 x 19 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Nice example of the single sheet version of the seminal Fry-Jefferson map of Virginia and Maryland, engraved by Elisabeth Haussard and published in Paris by Robert De Vaugondy for the *Atlas Universel.*

A well executed reduction of Joshua Fry and Peter Jefferson's landmark, which was originally issued separately and later appeared in Jefferys' *American Atlas*. The result is a beautiful single folio sheet example of the most sought after and recognizable 18th Century map of Virginia and Maryland. While the title is in French, virtually all of the place names and annotations are in English. The map provides a fabulously detailed look into pre-revolutionary war Virginia and Maryland, extending west to the Alleghany Mountains, and including Delaware and a portion of New Jersey, as well as the region around Philadelphia.

Originally prepared by Joshua Fry of William & Mary and Peter Jefferson (father of President Thomas Jefferson) at the request of Lord Halifax in 1748, the Fry-Jefferson was a monumental leap forward in the mapping of the region. It is the first map to accurately depict the Blue Ridge Mountains and the first to lay down the colonial road system of Virginia. A great number of plantations are located and include the family names of the Virginia plantation owners of the period. The cartouche, showing a tobacco warehouse and wharf, is one of the earliest printed images of the Virginia tobacco trade.

One of the first actions of Lord Halifax upon becoming president of the Board of Trade and Plantations in 1748, was to request information concerning activities in the Frontiers and of potential French encroachments on the British territorial claims. In 1750, the Board required that each colony conduct a

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comprehensive survey. The acting Governor of Virginia, Col. Lewis Burwell, commissioned Fry & Jefferson to prepare a map of the Virginia colony.

Joshua Fry, a mathematician at the College of William and Mary, and Peter Jefferson, a surveyor (father of Thomas Jefferson), had together previously drawn the boundaries of Lord Fairfax's lands in 1746, and surveyed the Virginia-North Carolina boundary in 1749. First issued in 1751, the Fry-Jefferson map incorporates the original surveys of Fry & Jefferson with existing data. A major revision in 1755 incorporated important information about the western part of the colony from the journals of John Dalrymple and Christopher Gist, the latter of whom is credited in the upper left part of the map with having contributed to the revisions. It is the 1755 edition that forms the basis for the subsequent editions.

The present De Vaugondy version of the map is known in 5 states:

- State 1: Dated 1755. Gravee E. Haussard. Lord Fairfax line shown. Pennsylvania-Maryland boundary delineated only up to the Monongahela River.
- State 2: Dated 1755. Gravee E. Haussard. Lord Fairfax line removed. Pennsylvania-Maryland boundary delineated to the far western terminus of the map. (1757 ca)
- State 3: Dated 1755. Groux (engraver). Lord Fairfax line removed. Pennsylvania-Maryland boundary delineated to the far western terminus of the map. (1778 ca)
- State 4: Dated 1755. Groux (engraver). Lord Fairfax line removed. "Geographe Ordinaire du Roi" is now shortened to "Geographe Ordinaire and the privilege is removed.
- State 5: Undated. Groux (engraver). "Ordinaire du Roi" no longer appears below De Vaugondy's name in the title. (1793 ca).

A nice example.

Detailed Condition: