



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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A New Mapp of the West-Indies, or the Islands of America in the North Sea; Together with the adjacent Dominions; Explaining what belongs to Spain, England, France, Holland &c. As also the severall tracts made by the Gallions and Flota from place to place . . . Aug 1740

Stock#: 40360mp2
Map Maker: Moll & Morden
Date: 1740
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 40 x 23.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Decorative example of this 1740 state of Moll & Morden's separately issued map of the Theater of War in the Caribbean, first published in London circa 1702 by Robert Morden & Herman Moll.

A separately published and very rare English produced map of the War of Spanish Succession, (1701-1714). This war was fought between two alliances of European powers, including a divided Spain, over who had the right to succeed Charles II as king of Spain. Primarily a European war, there were several naval skirmishes and many privateers cruised the waters in search of the Spanish treasure ships to plunder. In 1701 both England and France, who were allied with Spain, sent fleets there. This map was likely produced the time or soon after the English fleet sailed. Cartographically, the map is a curious amalgam of cartographic information along the Gulf Coast. The source of the Mississippi appears near Corpus Christie, a vestage of La Salle and Franquelin's work in the early 1680s and thereafter followed by Rossi, Coronell, Roillard, De Fer and Morden in the 1690s.

The map was the subject of some dispute with French mapmaker Pieter Mortier, who Morden accused of plagery. This 1740 edition of the map omits the following note at the top right, first inserted on the second edition of the map, circa 1702:

Whereas Peter Mortier Bookseller of Amsterdam hath lately published an imperfect Coppy of a Map entitled the Seat of War in the West Indies &c. to which he hath affixed his own name, and therin vainly assumed the title of Geographer tho he understands nothing of a Map, and yet would hereby amuse the World, as if the Originall which is much more Correct, was a Coppy after his; this is to give notice that this is the true Originall.



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In describing Mortier's map, Cohen & Taliaferro (Catalog 2, Map #35) note as follows:

During [the War of Spanish Succession], Britain, Holland and the German Empire pitted themselves against France and Spain. For the first time, the legendary fleets of Spanish treasure ships became military targets, offering conquering navies the promise of unimaginable wealth in addition to strategical advantage. Campbell notes that such raids had previously been the sport of pirates and buccaneers. In spite of the wealth they carried, the Spanish treasure fleets held to a regular schedule, as it was vital that the ships, with their heavily armed escorts, leave before late summer to avoid the deadly hurricane season.

Early in the summer, two Spanish fleets would leave Cadiz, the main section heading via Cartagena for the collection points at Portobelo (close to Panama), the other making for Vera Cruz. Forewarned of their arrival, the local authorities would have gathered the bullion from the mines of Mexico and Peru, as well as the cargo brought from the Philippines. The two laden fleets would then rendezvous at Havana for the homeward passage" -- Campbell.

The Morden & Moll map locates these routes and, as with the alleged Mortier piracy of Morden & Moll's map, "is in effect a plain man's guide to the treasure shipments, plotting the routes and describing the routines." The large vignette in the lower left contains a lavish scene illustrating the Gold Trade, while "the chest crammed with ingots would have made any Bluebeard go weak at the knees, but the truth is that by this date the Spaniards were shipping silver, not gold."

The cartouche includes a group of sailors presenting a pair of shoes to a native in exchange for a chest of gold coins.

The title of the map is also extensively revised. For an image of the second edition of the map, link here: `{{ inventory_detail_link('35525ops') }}`

There exists a number of different states:

- 1702 Morden & Moll
- 1702 Morden & Moll with Seller & Price imprint
- 1709 circa, with imprint of Morden and William Knight.
- 1740--no mapmaker imprint



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Detailed Condition:

2-sheets, joined, as issued. Restorations in the upper and lower right corners. Tho whole cleaned and backed with a thin sheet of tissue to support paper weakness.