



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Map of Australia, Compiled from the Nautical Surveys, Made by Order of the Admiralty, and other Authentic Documents.

Stock#: 55068
Map Maker: Wyld
Date: 1836
Place: London
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG
Size: 34 x 22 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

A fascinating map Australia from the important James Wyld map sequence featuring discoveries from recent expeditions into the interior.

Wyld's map captures Australia in 1836 when the coastlines of the subcontinent were well defined following the explorations of Matthew Flinders and others, however, a majority of the interior remained a complete enigma. Most of the settlement is concentrated in two regions, the eighteen counties in New South Wales (which then included all of Queensland) centered around Sydney and the twenty-six counties centered around Perth in Western Australia (still referred to as 'New Holland'). Southern Australia, the only state with defined borders, is depicted, however, Victoria remains unorganized territory called 'Australia Felix', shown a decade before the gold rush. Van Diemen's Land or Tasmania, which is detailed in a large inset, shows development in its western regions with nine counties having been laid out.

Importantly the map depicts the recent discoveries of several explorers, especially with respect to the conspicuous detail in the interior of what is now Victoria and the far southern part of New South Wales. On various treks from 1824 to 1828, Hamilton Hume, discovered the overland route from Sydney to Port Phillip (the future site of Melbourne), as well as the Darling River, the Murray River's longest tributary. Knowledge of the Murray Basin and surrounding regions would later be upon by the expeditions of Charles Sturt from 1828 to 1830 and Sir Thomas Mitchell from 1831 to 1836, but is not yet shown on this edition of the map. Mitchell had previously been responsible for the mapping of the settled regions of New South Wales as shown on this map, an achievement for which he received his knighthood.

The present map is one of Wyld's the sequence of continually updated maps of Australia, the first state of



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which appeared in 1833. The series is of great historical importance for it played a definitive role in recording the rapid progress of exploration and development during Australia's formative years. James Wyld (1812-87) was then one of the world's leading mapmakers, holding the title of official Geographer to Queen Victoria.

Detailed Condition:

Dissected for insertion in a folio sized atlas, with evidence of old folds. Several repairs along centerfold, including some minor loss at the bottom center, but not affecting the printed image.