

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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(Rare Engraved Example) Reconnaissance of Catalina Harbor And the Anchorage on the NE Side of the Island . . . 1852

- Stock#:57035Map Maker:United States Coast Survey
- Date:1852Place:WashingtonColor:UncoloredCondition:VGSize:15.5 x 10 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Separately Published and Engraved on Thick Paper!

Rare separately published engraved example of this finely executed chart of Catalina Harbor and Isthmus, prepared by the US Coast Survey, with a profile view and soundings.

Unlike most Coast Survey maps which are printed on thin paper using a photomechanical process and issued in annual reports, the present example is a separately published example, engraved from the original plate and pre-dating the addition of the numbering system above the title (J No. 4).

Surveyed under the command of James Alden. View by WB McMurtrie. Includes sailing directions and notes.



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Catalina's Isthmus is created by two coves separated by approximately a half mile of land. The leeward cove is known as Isthmus Cove and the windward cove as Catalina Harbor. For thousands of years the Isthmus was the site of a large Native Islander village and the center of their religious community. By the 1860s, smuggling and mining operations for silver, lead and zinc took place in the area. In 1864, during the Civil War, the Union Army sent soldiers to both protect the area from Confederate privateers and survey the Isthmus for the Bureau of Indian Affairs as a location for a future Indian reservation. Company C of the Fourth Infantry built barracks at the Isthmus and spent a total of nine months on the Island surveying the land and maintaining their post. All interest in the Island was later abandoned, but the barracks were left behind and are in use today as headquarters for the Isthmus Yacht Club. The barracks stand as the most western Civil War site in America, and the oldest structure on the Island.

Several movies have been filmed at Catalina Harbor, dating back to the turn of the century. The most notable film was the 1926 production of Old Ironsides, were the south point of the Harbor (near Pin Rock) was turned into the port of Tripoli with the construction of giant sets. Several of this films left behind the burned out and blown up hulks used in the making of the movie. There are at least six known wrecks in the Harbor.

Rarity

This is the first engraved example of this chart we have ever seen on thick paper.

Detailed Condition:

Separately published on thick paper and engraved. Minor foxing and soiling.